

HISTORY
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD
OF
PUBLICATION
AND
SABBATH-SCHOOL
WORK

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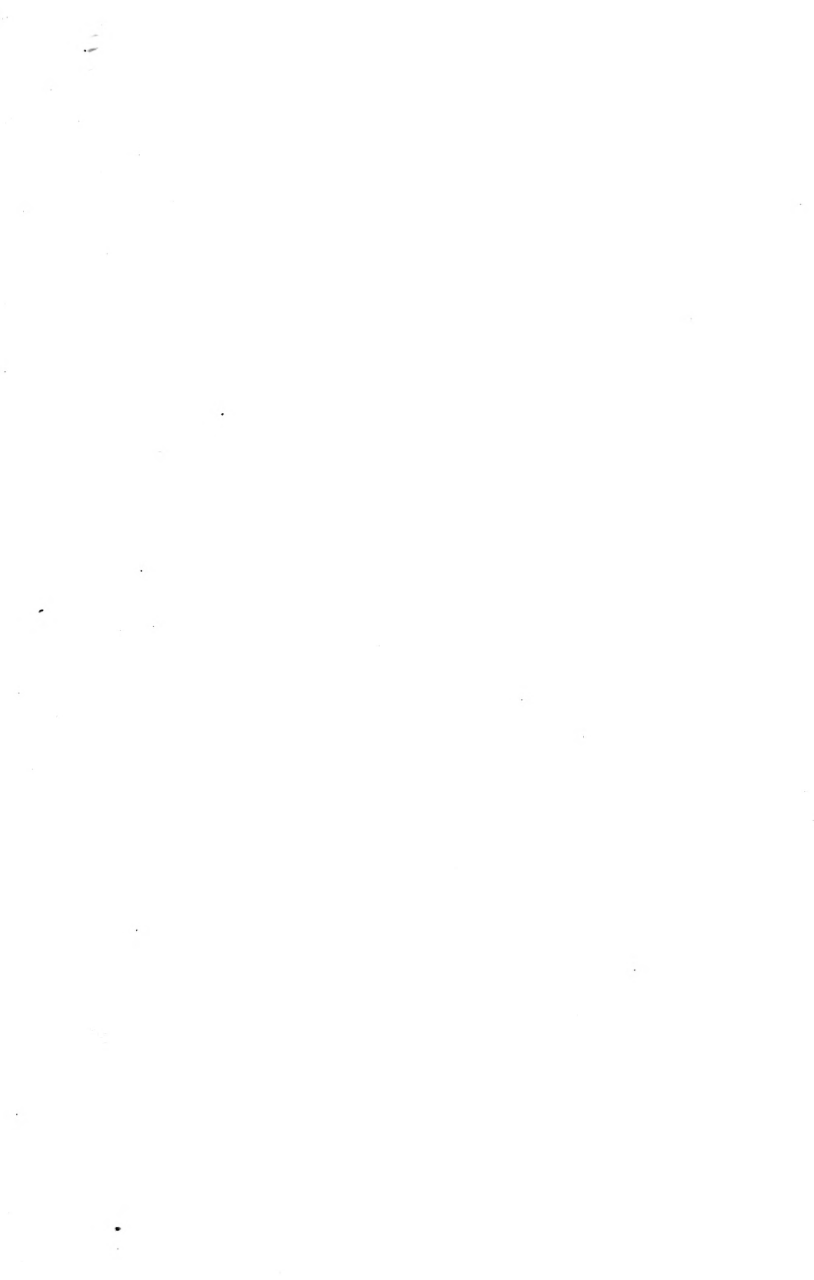
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History of the Presbyterian

Board of Publication and



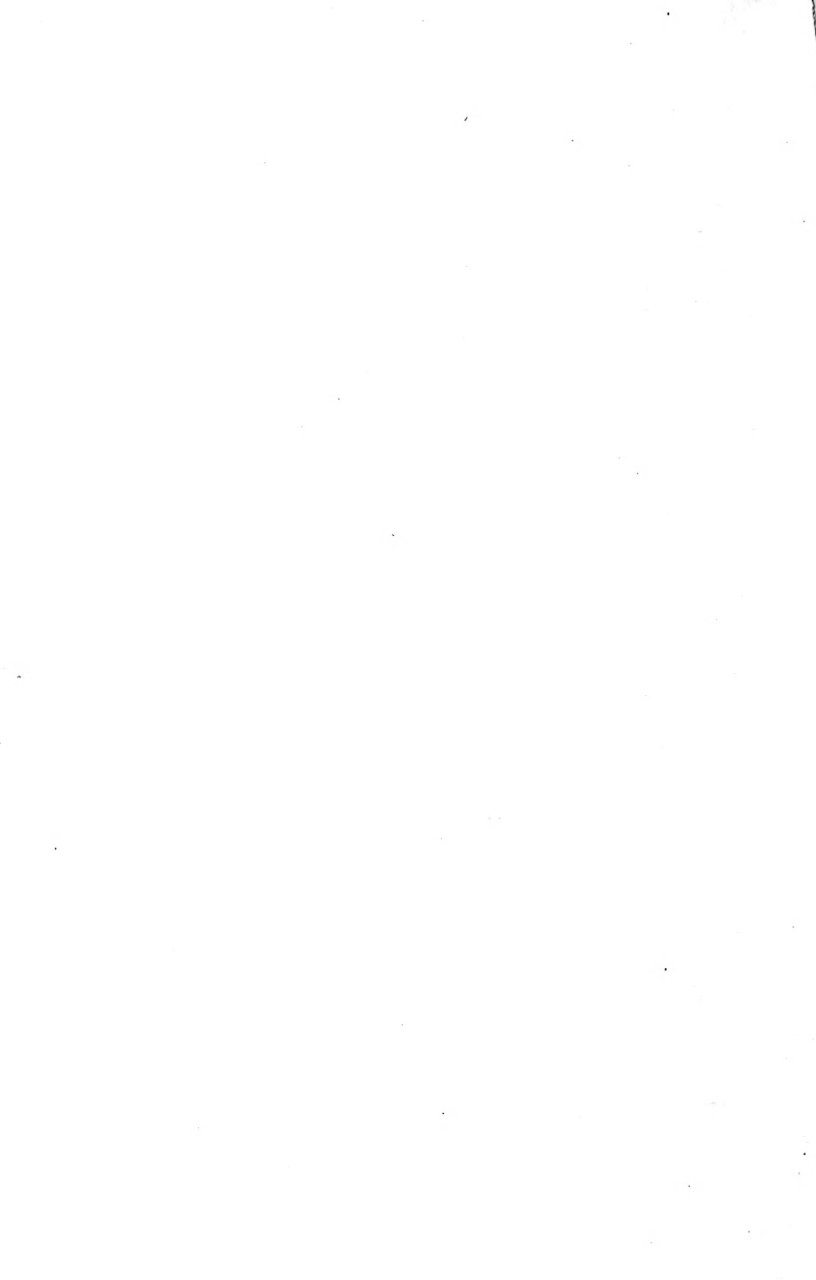


HISTORY
OF THE
Presbyterian Board of Publication
AND
Sabbath-School Work.

PREPARED AT THE SUGGESTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 1888, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE SECRETARY,

BY THE
REV. WILLARD M. RICE, D.D.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
AND SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK,
1334 CHESTNUT STREET.



INTRODUCTION.

BY REV. E. R. CRAVEN, D. D.,
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD.

THE General Assembly of 1886, when making arrangements for the meeting of the one hundredth Assembly, passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That each of the Boards of our Church be urged to provide for the preparation and publication of the history and outlook of its work, and arrange for the presentation of a brief synopsis of the same at its evening meeting during the sessions of the General Assembly of 1888.

In compliance with the first part of this resolution, the Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work requested its Recording Clerk, the Rev. Willard M. Rice, D. D., to prepare a history of the institution. This work could not have been committed to more competent hands. Dr. Rice has been associated with the institution for thirty years, having been appointed a member of the Old School Board in 1860. He was appointed Recording Clerk of that body in 1862, and in that office he was continued until the Reunion, and since that event to the present time.

The work as prepared by Dr. Rice is eminently satisfactory. It is accurate, exhaustive and well written.

It presents a living picture of the operations of one of the most important agencies of the Church.

The history naturally is divided into four parts :

Part I. treats of the actions of Assemblies and Synods in reference to the publication of religious literature previous to 1838, in which year the Board was first established by the O. S. Assembly as "The Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-school Books." It notes the change of title and the enlargement of the sphere of the newly-formed Board in the following year, and then traces its operations and its gradual development until the Reunion in 1870.

Part II. sets forth the history of the Presbyterian Publication Committee from its establishment in 1852 by the N. S. General Assembly until the Reunion.

Part III. carries on the history from the Reunion of the churches in 1870 until the reorganization of the Board in 1887.

Part IV. describes the institution as reorganized by the Assembly of 1887 under the title of "The Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work." It contains the report of the Special Committee appointed by the Assembly of 1886, in accordance with whose recommendation the reorganization was effected, and also a complete statement of the work of the different departments since the reorganization.

The work is enriched with a valuable Appendix, which contains the "Charter of the Board;" tabulated statements of receipts and missionary work; and a list of all the members since the beginning, with the dates of their appointment and death or resignation.

I.

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

1838—1870.

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

THE Presbyterian Church has always set a high estimate upon the power of the press. Its contributions to every department of literature have been varied and valuable. In our own country from the days of Makemie until now its ministers have made free use of the printed page for the dissemination of religious truth. In 1735 the Synod of Philadelphia, then the supreme judicatory of the Church, appointed a committee for the supervision of whatever its members should see cause to prepare for the press upon any controversy in religious matters. From time to time through the eighteenth century the Synod, and afterward the General Assembly, directed the purchase and distribution of Bibles and religious books among the poor and on the frontiers, and the publication of the Standards of the Church, etc. In the early part of the present century this course was continued, and appropriations were repeatedly made for the distribution of books among the needy and the colored population. In 1809 the Assembly recommended the formation of synodical tract societies to secure the distribution of tracts within their bounds. Presbyterians were prominent among the founders of the American Bible Society in 1817, the American Sun-

day-School Union in 1824, and the American Tract Society in 1825. No denomination of Christians contributed more liberally or labored more energetically for the establishment and support of these union agencies for the dissemination of evangelical truth. Some of our most prominent ministers and members were among their active officers and managers, and made valuable contributions to their publications.

TRACT AND SABBATH-SCHOOL BOOK SOCIETY.

In 1833, during the sessions of the General Assembly in the city of Philadelphia, the idea of publishing works treating of the distinctive doctrines and polity of the Presbyterian Church was suggested in a conversation among a few friends. Subsequent conferences led to the arrangement of a plan for the issue of tracts, the publication of volumes being regarded as too expensive and hazardous. In October, 1833, the subject was brought before the Presbytery of Philadelphia, and the following overture was adopted, and ordered to be laid before the Synod of Philadelphia at its next ensuing meeting :

WHEREAS, It is at all times important, and peculiarly so at the present and in the existing circumstances of our Church, that effectual care be taken that our Catechisms and other doctrinal Standards, and also tracts and other publications in which correct views of Calvinistic truth are stated and defended, should be circulated abundantly among the people of our denomination ; therefore,

Resolved, That it be, and it hereby is, overtured by this Presbytery to the Synod of Philadelphia to take order for

the establishment of a Presbyterian tract society within the bounds of the Synod, in order that the people of all our congregations may be furnished readily and at a moderate price with the standard and other authors of an orthodox Calvinistic character.

This overture, and a similar one from the Presbytery of Huntingdon, were presented to the Synod of Philadelphia in November, 1833, and the Synod resolved to "constitute a board of managers to prepare, publish and circulate Presbyterian tracts and books inculcating the distinctive doctrines of our Standards, which board shall be known as 'The Board of Managers of the Presbyterian Tract and Sabbath-School Book Society,' under the care and direction of the Synod of Philadelphia."

A board of managers was appointed by the Synod, consisting of thirty clergymen and eight laymen, who were "empowered to draft such by-laws as may be calculated to carry into effect the objects of this society, and to do whatever else they may in their discretion judge to be necessary or useful to promote its design." This board held its first meeting November 2, 1833, and appointed Rev. Ashbel Green, D. D., Rev. John McDowell, D. D., Rev. William M. Engles, Rev. Samuel G. Winchester, and Messrs. Solomon Allen, Matthew L. Bevan, A. W. Mitchell, M. D., and Alexander Symington, as the executive committee. Dr. Green was the chairman and Rev. S. G. Winchester secretary of this first committee. Dr. A. W. Mitchell was appointed treasurer, and the Rev. William M. Engles editor of the publications. A publishing com-

mittee was also appointed, and suitable by-laws were adopted.

The first act of the executive committee in furtherance of the views of their appointment was the preparation and publication of a circular to present the object to the churches and solicit co-operation. Without funds, without suitable tracts, and with but little general interest enlisted in their behalf, the board of managers accomplished but little during the first twelve months of their appointment. They were not, however, idle, but engaged in correspondence to procure original tracts, as well as to obtain the requisite funds.

In the year 1835, they began the work of publication, and Tracts Nos. 1-4, as now on the catalogue of the Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work, were issued and favorably received. An edition of the Shorter Catechism, with Scripture proofs, was also issued as "Tract No. 5."

The society was thus far without funds, except the contributions furnished by those engaged in the enterprise and a few other friends. In the year 1835 a contribution of four hundred and six dollars was received from the First Presbyterian Church of New York, being, as it is believed, the first donation made to the object by any church.

During the next three years Tracts No. 6-18, inclusive, were issued. In the report to the Synod of 1838 it is stated that "the publications were steadily gaining ground in our churches, the demand for them fully meeting our expectations." The amount of publications from the origin of the society to the time of the

report was 104,000 copies, or 4,324,000 pages. The total of receipts amounted to \$2439.74½. The stock or property of the society was as follows:

Stereotype plates, at cost	\$ 720.00
Outstanding debts	1,300.00
Stock of tracts on hand.....	600.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,620.00

THE ASSEMBLY'S TRACT AND SABBATH-SCHOOL BOARD.

In the year 1838 the subject of enlarging the sphere of usefulness of the society by placing it under the care of the General Assembly was submitted to that body, and favorably received. Forty ministers and forty elders were chosen to constitute a board, to be styled "The Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-School Books of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America," to which should be entrusted, with such directions and instructions as might from time to time be given by the General Assembly, the superintendence of all the operations of the Presbyterian Church in relation to the subject of tracts and Sabbath-school books. The city of Philadelphia was made the seat of operations of the Board, and it was empowered and authorized to receive a transfer of the Presbyterian Tract and Sabbath-School Book Society, then under the care of the Synod of Philadelphia, with all the tracts, books, and funds belonging to said society.

The following-named persons were elected members of this Board:

MINISTERS.

John H. Church, D. D.
 John N. Campbell, D. D.
 Wm. Blain.
 Wm. W. Phillips, D. D.
 George Potts.
 John M. Krebs.
 Nicholas Murray.
 Samuel Miller, D. D.
 A. Alexander, D. D.
 John Gray.
 A. Green, D. D.
 Wm. M. Engles.
 H. A. Boardman.
 C. C. Cuyler, D. D.
 Joseph H. Jones.
 R. J. Breckinridge.
 Joshua Moore.
 G. W. Musgrave.
 Charles C. Beatty.
 D. Elliott, D. D.
 James Culbertson.
 James Hoge, D. D.
 Joshua L. Wilson, D. D.
 John L. Belville.
 Wm. C. Matthews.
 James W. McKennan.
 Benjamin F. Spilman.
 William K. Stewart.
 W. L. Breckinridge.
 Andrew Todd.

LAYMEN.

Ananias Platt.
 H. Auchincloss.
 Henry Rankin.
 Robert Jaffray.
 James Lenox.
 Thomas McKeen.
 Wm. Wilson.
 John T. Woodhull.
 A. W. Mitchell, M. D.
 Alex. Symington.
 Solomon Allen.
 Joseph B. Mitchell.
 James Russell.
 John Stillé.
 Matthew Newkirk.
 George Morris.
 H. Denny.
 H. H. Leavitt.
 Nathaniel Ewing.
 John C. Stockton.
 James Johnson.
 John Mollyneaux.
 Victor King.
 James M. Ray.
 W. A. G. Posey.
 Ebenezer Flinn.
 Abijah Bayless.
 James Weir.
 P. C. Venable, M. D.
 J. B. Martin.

MINISTERS.

William S. Plumer.
 S. B. Wilson, D. D.
 James Morrison.
 Wm. McPheeters, D. D.
 John T. Edgar, D. D.
 John Witherspoon, D. D.
 John Le Roy Davies.
 Thomas S. Witherspoon.
 Samuel G. Winchester.
 A. B. Lawrence.

LAYMEN.

J. W. Pain.
 Robert H. Burton.
 Robert H. McEwen.
 Joseph Biggar.
 D. C. Campbell.
 John R. Witherspoon.
 Thomas Henderson.
 Robert H. McNair.
 Thomas Franklin.
 P. A. Walker.

The Board thus elected held its first meeting, by direction of the Assembly, Wednesday, May 30, 1838, in the Seventh Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, and elected the following officers :

President.—Rev. Ashbel Green, D. D.

Vice-President.—James Lenox.

Treasurer.—A. W. Mitchell, M. D.

Secretary.—Rev. Joseph H. Jones.

Editor.—Rev. Wm. M. Engles, D. D.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Rev. Henry A. Boardman (Chairman).

C. C. Cuyler, D. D. A. Symington.

Wm. M. Engles, D. D. Solomon Allen.

Rev. J. H. Jones, *ex-off.* A. W. Mitchell, M. D., *ex-off.*

Joseph B. Mitchell. James Russell (Secretary).

At the subsequent meeting of the Synod of Philadelphia, in October, 1838, it was—

Resolved, That the Presbyterian Tract and Sabbath-School Book Society, now under the care of this Synod, shall be dissolved at and after the meeting of the next Assembly, and its funds, books, tracts, stereotype plates and claims be transferred to the Board of the Assembly.

As a response to this action of the Synod, at a meeting of the Board in Philadelphia, November 17, 1838, it was—

Resolved, That the Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-School Books will now go on to perform, in dependence on the great Head of the Church, the important work for which it was created.

The Board made its first annual report to the Assembly of 1839. It had attempted but little, for the obvious reason that it had not been furnished with the means. Its affairs were only in an incipient state. The receipts for the sales of the year were only \$982.74. The only Sabbath-school book published during the year, the first on the Board's catalogue, was *The Way of Salvation Familiarly Explained*, by the Rev. Archibald Alexander, D. D., of which three thousand copies were issued. From this unpretending origin and these days of comparatively small things has sprung an institution whose works are known and valued, and whose influence is felt for good, through the Church and the land.

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

The General Assembly of 1839 committed the resolutions of the preceding Assembly, establishing the Board, and the report of the Board to a special com-

mittee, "with instructions to report such a change in the name, and such a modification of the plan of the Board, as shall more adequately meet the demands of the Church and the world."

Upon the recommendation of this committee, the name of the Board was changed to "The Presbyterian Board of Publication," and important alterations and amendments were made in its Constitution.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION,

As adopted by the Assembly of 1838, and amended by the Assembly of 1839.

ARTICLE I. The General Assembly will superintend and conduct, by its own proper authority, the work of furnishing the churches under its care with suitable tract, Sabbath-school and other publications by a Board appointed for that purpose, and directly amenable to said Assembly.

ART. II. The General Assembly shall, at its present meeting, choose *forty* ministers and *forty* laymen as members of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, one-fourth part of whom shall go out annually, in alphabetical order; and thereafter ten ministers and ten laymen shall be annually elected as members of the Board, whose term of office shall be four years; and these *forty* ministers and *forty* laymen so appointed shall constitute a Board, to be styled "The Presbyterian Board of Publication," to which for the time being shall be entrusted, with such directions and instructions as may from time to time be given by the

General Assembly, the superintendence of all the operations of the Presbyterian Church in relation to the publication of tracts, Sabbath-school books, the authorized version of the Psalms and Hymns and Confession of Faith, approved works in support of the great principles of the Reformation, as exhibited in the doctrines and order of the Presbyterian Church, and such works, permanent and periodical, as are adapted to promote sound learning and true religion. The Board shall make annually to the General Assembly a report of their proceedings, and submit for its approval such plans and measures as shall be deemed useful and necessary.

ART. III. The Board of Managers shall hold their first meeting at such time and place as may be directed by the General Assembly, and shall hold a meeting annually at some convenient time, during the sessions of the General Assembly, at which time it shall appoint a President, Vice-President, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer and an Executive Committee, to serve for the ensuing year. It shall belong to the Board of Managers to review and decide upon all the doings of the Executive Committee, to receive and dispose of their annual report, and to present any statement of their proceedings which they may judge proper and necessary to the General Assembly. It shall be their duty, also, to meet for the transaction of business as often as may be expedient, due notice of every special meeting being seasonably given to every member of the Board. Eleven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ART. IV. To the Executive Committee, consisting of nine members, besides the Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, shall belong the duty of selecting and preparing suitable tracts and books for publication; of superintending and directing their distribution; of receiving the

reports of the Corresponding Secretary, and giving him needful directions in reference to matters of business and correspondence entrusted to him; of authorizing all appropriations of money; and of taking particular direction and management of the whole subject of publication, subject to the control and direction of the Board of Managers. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month, and oftener if necessary; five members meeting at the time and place of adjournment on special call shall constitute a quorum, except that the approval of a majority of the whole committee shall be necessary to direct the publication of any tract or book. The committee shall have power to fill their own vacancies should any occur during the recess of the Board.

ART. V. All property, houses, lands, tenements and permanent funds belonging to the said "Presbyterian Board of Publication" shall be taken in the name of the Trustees of the General Assembly, and held in trust by them for the use and benefit of "The Presbyterian Board of Publication" for the time being.

ART. VI. The seat of operation of the Board of Managers shall be the city of Philadelphia.

SEMI-CENTENARY FUND.

The Semi-Centenary of the General Assembly afforded a favorable occasion for the creation of a fund for the use of the Board. The General Assembly of 1839 recommended the proper celebration of this event by the appointment of a day—the second Sabbath of December—"to be observed with religious solemnity by all our people in celebrating the praises of God, and in rendering thanks to his great name for all his mercies." It was also recommended that, "as a timely

and open expression of the Church's gratitude, either by public collections, or in some other way approved and in use among the people, every member of the Presbyterian Church in the United States be called to 'offer gifts' for the glory of God and the good of man." The Board of Publication was designated as the principal object for these benefactions. Many large sums were collected in various places, and devoted to special local enterprises. The Board, however, in the two following years received from these centennial benefactions an amount which, with the assets of the Synodical Tract Society transferred to it at its organization, gave it a working capital of \$40,000. This capital was subsequently increased to \$50,000 by further collections of centennial subscriptions, and by special gifts of individual friends for the stereotyping of certain valuable and costly works. By special enactment of the General Assembly this capital was to be preserved entire and undiminished, and to be so used as to require no contributions for its increase. It was a business capital to be used for the glory of God, the upbuilding of the Redeemer's kingdom and the good of men by publishing and circulating books and tracts of a doctrinal character, Calvinistic in their views of truth and suited to perpetuate the system of doctrine and practice of the Presbyterian Church, and thus, by God's blessing, making the men, women, and children of the Church not only intelligent Christians, but also intelligent, thoroughly indoctrinated Presbyterians.

With this amount of capital, the name of a Church institution and the fostering care of the Assembly

secured, the original friends of the enterprise were led to indulge hopes of a wider extent of usefulness than had at the outset been thought of, and laid their plans accordingly. From that time forth the Board continued gradually to extend its operations, attracting the favorable attention of the churches and receiving gratifying tokens of its increasing usefulness.

In February, 1847, an act of incorporation was procured from the Legislature of Pennsylvania, which was approved by the General Assembly of that year. Only one of the trustees named in the Act of Corporation survives—viz., Archibald McIntyre, Esq., who is still an efficient and valued member of the Board.

END OF FIRST DECADE.

At the end of the Board's first decade, in 1848, the gross receipts had increased from \$723.77, in 1838, to \$34,371.37. Two hundred and forty works had been published, giving a total of 639,800 volumes printed. Besides these, the number of tracts had reached 58, of which 150,500 copies had been printed, besides 180,000 Catechisms and 43,000 almanacs—a total of 1,013,300 publications. The capital of the Board had been gradually increased, chiefly by donations; so that it then amounted to about \$70,000.

The Board had also been made the almoners of private donations placed at its disposal by a few generous persons, to be distributed according to its judgment, by means of which nearly \$5000 had been expended and about 10,000 volumes given to furnish libraries to Presbyterian clergymen of limited pecuniary means,

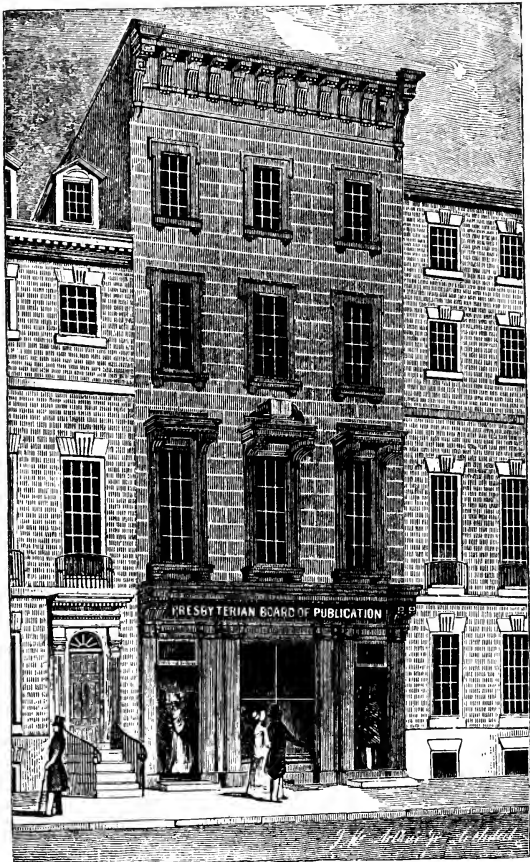
to feeble churches, Sabbath-schools, benevolent and charitable institutions and ships-of-war.

PUBLICATION HOUSE.

Thus far the place of business occupied by the Board had been a rented store and committee-rooms on the corner of Seventh and George (Sansom) Street. In 1848 the institution seemed sufficiently matured and extended to warrant the purchase of a house for its permanent occupancy. A property on Chestnut Street above Eighth was purchased on very favorable terms, and all the exterior arrangements for permanency and widespread usefulness were apparently completed. But the Board had occupied its new quarters only a few months when, January 6, 1849, the house was destroyed by fire. The loss was partly covered by insurance, and for the rest was principally made up by the generous contributions of the churches and of liberal men in various parts of the country. Thus a larger and more commodious building was erected, which continued to be the home of the Board until the Reunion in 1870. A small debt was contracted, which was speedily liquidated.

COLPORTAGE.

Thus far the Board of Publication had been simply an organization for printing and publishing books and tracts, without any arrangement for their circulation. The capital furnished by the churches was to be used for publishing exclusively; no means were provided for the support of a class of men for scattering abroad the publications. The income from sales was expected



PUBLICATION HOUSE, 821 CHESTNUT STREET.

to furnish the necessary funds for manufacturing and keeping on hand at all times a full supply of books, and in this way the Board was to sustain itself. It was simply a commercial institution designed to promote a religious object.

Very early in its history there came upon the small capital then in its possession, from feeble churches unable to pay, applications for grants of its publications by far too numerous to be met by its profits, and after personal and private statements had been made to friends of the Board funds were furnished, and were credited on its books to a Distribution Fund. This was the beginning of the missionary work of the Board. Later in its history there came a demand for a wider circulation of its issues among the destitute. The books were not reaching the Church to the extent which was desirable, and the more needy portions were scarcely touched at all. In these circumstances, it was judged expedient to resort to a system of colportage for the circulation of the books, and, as the prices could not be placed high enough to defray the expense of this system, it was resolved to call upon the churches to furnish by annual collections the means of employing a corps of colporteurs, and also a fund for donations. In this way the character of the Board was changed from that of a mere commercial establishment to that of a benevolent institution. In all these plans the Board either carried out the instructions of the Assembly or received its cordial approval. The Assembly in 1847 recorded its estimate of this work of the Board in the following terms :

Resolved, That the Assembly is highly gratified that the Board has entered upon a system of colportage as an agency for the circulation of its books; and while repeating the recommendation of former Assemblies, that funds be raised by Synods and Presbyteries for the establishment of depositories owned and managed by themselves, the Assembly would further recommend that they employ, in connection with these depositories, the colporteurs appointed by the Board.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

In order to carry out these changes, as well as in various ways to bring the Board more fully and constantly into communication with the churches, the office of Corresponding Secretary and General Agent, already provided for in the Constitution, was filled in the autumn of 1848. To this important and responsible office the Rev. John Leyburn, D. D., was unanimously elected, and he entered upon his work in November. The Board had already employed a few persons as traveling agents for the sale of books, but at that time there were only four of these, and their labors were confined exclusively to the States of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York.

It was immediately after arrangements were made for carrying into effect the extended plans that the newly-purchased house of the Board was destroyed by fire, and the urgent necessity of rebuilding was laid upon the Board and the churches. This diversion of effort and funds greatly interfered with the progress of the incipient colporteur enterprise. Still, a beginning was made, and within two years from its inception the

Board reported forty colporteurs employed. The Assembly of 1849 expressed its approval as follows:

Resolved, That the system of colportage adopted by the Board is not only a valuable auxiliary, but in the present condition of our country, with its advancing population sweeping rapidly beyond the reach of a settled ministry and all the ordinary means of grace, must be considered a necessary means of the widest diffusion and most effective influence of our publications; and the Assembly have heard with peculiar pleasure that many of our candidates for the ministry are engaged during the interval of study in the prosecution of this important work, so full of benefit to others, and of still more valuable practical instruction to themselves. We would, therefore, urge the Board to pursue, with redoubled activity, this department of their labors, and throw themselves upon the liberality of the churches for any additional expense which might be necessarily incurred.

The Board endeavored faithfully to carry out these instructions of the Assembly, and encouraging success accompanied their efforts. The sales of books were at once increased, until, from \$29,000 in 1849, they rose to nearly \$80,000 in 1854. Colporteurs in numbers varying from year to year were thenceforward kept in the field. They were instructed to regard themselves not merely as venders of books, but as *missionaries* to carry the truths of the gospel wherever they labored. An unspeakable amount of good was accomplished by these faithful workers going from house to house, holding religious conversation and prayer, and distributing, both by sale and gift, the books and tracts issued by the Board. Multitudes in every part of the land, but

chiefly in the West, of the poor, the needy and those destitute of religious privileges, were thus reached and benefited.

In 1854 this department of the Board's work was placed under the special charge of Mr. Winthrop Sargent, as Superintendent of Colportage—an office in which he continued for eighteen years to give faithful and devoted service to the Board and the Church.

In 1858, at the end of the Board's second decade, it reported that the number of colporteurs in commission during the year had been 263; that twenty-nine States and Territories had been traversed and had received larger or smaller supplies of the publications of the Board, besides the British provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada East and Canada West. Hundreds of thousands had thus received messages of eternal life, and the voice of exhortation and prayer had been lifted up through this instrumentality in very many places where such a voice was never heard before.

The Rev. Dr. Leyburn, after three years of faithful service, resigned the office of Corresponding Secretary and General Agent in 1852, and the Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., was elected his successor. Dr. Musgrave held the position for a year, and was succeeded by the Rev. B. M. Smith, now of the Union Theological Seminary of Virginia. Dr. Smith vacated the office November 1, 1854, and was succeeded by the Rev. William E. Schenck, D. D., who continued to serve the Church and the Board until failing health compelled him to resign his office, in 1886. A more

extended notice of his valuable labors will be given in subsequent pages.

DEATH OF THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D. D.

The fourteenth annual report of the Board, presented to the General Assembly of 1852, made mournful mention of the death of the Rev. Archibald Alexander, D. D., senior professor in the Princeton Theological Seminary, which occurred October 22, 1851. Dr. Alexander had been the president of the Board from May, 1839, and had always manifested a deep interest in its welfare. He selected it as the channel through which he published nearly all of his works which appeared after its organization. At the time of his death the Board had issued 16,020,500 pages of his writings. Many of these works are of great permanent value, and still have an extended sale. To few persons was the Board more indebted than to him for the degree of prosperity and usefulness to which it attained during the first fourteen years of its existence.

The Rev. William W. Phillips, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in the city of New York, succeeded Dr. Alexander as president of the Board, and held that office until his death, March 20, 1865.

MR. JOSEPH P. ENGLER.

Mr. Joseph P. Engler became a member of the Board in 1839, and its Publishing Agent in 1845. He filled this office until his death, April 14, 1861. By his excellent personal qualities he greatly endeared himself to all the members, and by his extensive and accurate

learning, his untiring industry and hearty devotion to its interests, he did very much to promote the efficiency and usefulness of the institution. Many of the publications of the Board during his long term of office were selected by him, and all passed under his critical inspection. The *Catechism for Young Children*—of which hundreds of thousands have been circulated by the Board—was prepared by him. He was also the editor of a pocket edition of the Greek Testament of unrivaled accuracy.

At a meeting of the Board held two days after his death the following minute was unanimously adopted :

1. The Board, having been apprised of the recent and very sudden death of Mr. Joseph P. Engles, desire reverently to acknowledge the hand of God in this dispensation, and to bow submissively to his will.

2. They record their grateful sense of the eminent piety and usefulness of this devoted servant of God ; of his diligence, integrity and fidelity as the Publishing Agent of this Board ; of the generous efficiency with which he employed the resources of his large experience and ripe scholarship in promoting its interests ; and of the signal affability and kindness which marked all his intercourse with its members, and won their personal confidence and affection.

The General Assembly in May adopted the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Assembly unites with the Board in hereby recording its sense of the loss sustained by the Church in the death of the late Joseph P. Engles, the Publishing Agent of the Board, and in expressing its

sense of the diligence, integrity and fidelity with which he had so long served the Church in that office.

“SABBATH-SCHOOL VISITOR.”

The Board from its early inception felt called upon to give special attention to books for the young, and from year to year a goodly number of publications of this description were added to its catalogue. With the beginning of the year 1851, in accordance with the action of the General Assembly of the preceding year recommending the establishment of a paper for Sabbath-schools, the publication of *The Presbyterian Sabbath-School Visitor* was commenced. Its immediate success proved how much such a paper was demanded. At the expiration of the first three months of its existence it had secured a subscription list of 20,000; at the end of the first year the number of subscribers amounted to 28,000; at the end of the second year it had increased to 40,000; in 1858 the Board reported a circulation of 54,000.

Seldom has the General Assembly adopted a more important resolution than that which gave existence to this paper for the children and youth of our Church. It is well described by its name—“Sabbath-School Visitor.” Its pictorial illustrations are of a highly creditable character. Its matter, both selected and contributed, is strictly religious. Without sacrificing solidity to a simplicity which makes no demands of intellect, it presents the most useful and important truths in a style well adapted to engage the attention and arrest the affections of the young. Adults read it with

pleasure and profit, and many have accorded to it an estimate of the highest grade as a paper adapted to all.

“HOME AND FOREIGN RECORD.”

The General Assembly of 1849 appointed a committee to make arrangements for a periodical as the joint-organ of all the Boards. The committee having matured its plans, the publication of the *Home and Foreign Record* was begun in January, 1850. The *Visitor* and the *Record* were the only periodicals issued by the Board until after the Reunion in 1870.

THE LITERATURE OF THE BOARD.

During the successive years of its existence the Board kept steadily in view the great object for which it was created by the General Assembly—the publication and dissemination far and wide of the pure and complete truths of God’s word just as those truths are held and exhibited in the Standards of our Church. Its desire and aim was to furnish to all within its reach not only a sound and scriptural literature, but one adapted to the necessities and varied tastes of every class—to proffer to the minister of the gospel, to the head of the family, to the Sabbath-school teacher and scholar, to the youth and the adult, to the babe in Christ and the mature Christian, to the prosperous and the afflicted, to the irreligious and the skeptical, words of wisdom and of love suited to fit each and all for the duties of this life and for the glories of another. Loving heartily the noble Standards which have been transmitted to our Church from her fathers and founders,

and fully persuaded that they are built upon the solid rock of God's revealed truth, the Board has always openly avowed its desire that all men might be brought to concur heartily therewith, and has embraced every proper opportunity, by its publications, to correct every misrepresentation or mistake concerning those doctrines, and to exhibit and illustrate the truths of those Standards; so that they may win the hearts of all men to themselves, and to that free and precious salvation embodied and exhibited therein.

END OF SECOND DECADE.

At the end of the second decade it is interesting and inspiring to notice the growth of the Board. From a little germ it had become a great tree. Its total capital amounted to \$211,809. From its receipts of \$723 in 1838, when it came under the supervision of the General Assembly, its income from all sources had become \$109,413.71. Its losses through bad debts had been but about \$1300, or less than \$70 per annum. Its *Catalogue* contained the names of more than 800 publications, including books and tracts, of which 6,819,938 copies had been issued. Of the Confession of Faith it had published 60,000 copies; of the Shorter Catechism in various forms, 654,000 copies, and nearly as many more bound with the *Hymn-Book*, making altogether considerably over 1,000,000 copies of that admirable Standard of our Church. Of the *Catechism for Young Children* it had also published 346,000 copies; of the Assembly's *Hymn-Book*, 503,500 copies. Of other works we may name the following numbers

published: Boston's *Fourfold State*, 14,000 copies; Doddridge's *Rise and Progress*, 23,500; *Pilgrim's Progress*, 24,000; Fisher's *Catechism*, 14,000; *The Great Supper*, 24,000; Dr. J. W. Alexander's *Thoughts on Family Worship*, 25,000; *Bible Dictionary*, 16,000; *Pictorial First Book*, 34,000. A number of important works of a denominational character had also been issued at very considerable outlay, most of them by direction of the General Assembly, from which, notwithstanding their great value, but little return had been received. Among these may be mentioned *Records of the Presbyterian Church*, *Minutes of the General Assembly 1789-1820*, *Minutes of the General Assembly 1821-1835*.

The number of colporteurs in the service of the Board had increased from 20 in 1849 to 263 in 1858.

This increase in the number of colporteurs commissioned by the Board, and the vast extent of their field of operations, led to the appointment of district superintendents of colportage to exercise a general supervision of the work in their respective territories. The General Assembly of 1860 gave its official approval of these appointments by the unanimous adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Assembly approves of the employment of a supervisory class of colporteurs, or district superintendents, as likely to give still further activity and extension to this important work of colportage.

The Board reported, to the Assembly of 1861, five district superintendents—one for the States of Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri; another for

the States of Kentucky and Tennessee; a third for Georgia and Alabama; a fourth for Ohio, Indiana and Michigan; and a fifth for the Pacific coast. The latter—the most expensive of these agencies—was begun, at the Assembly's express direction and with a full knowledge of its costliness, because of the great importance of the field and its claims upon the Church.

WORK FOR SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

During the civil war of 1861–65 the Board took an active part in the work of supplying the soldiers and sailors on both sides of the great conflict with suitable books and tracts. At the opening of the war many thousand dollars' worth of such books and tracts were in the South; the Board authorized these to be distributed to the Confederate soldiers and sailors. Large quantities of books and tracts were distributed to the Union soldiers and sailors through the agency of the Christian Commission. Over 300,000 copies of *The Soldier's Pocket-Book*, prepared by the Rev. William M. Engles, D. D., editor of the Board's publications, were thus gratuitously distributed. In 1865 the Board reported to the General Assembly as follows:

Large and constant demands continue to be made upon the Board for suitable little volumes and tracts for the use of the soldiers. The Board has been most anxious to keep pace with these demands, and has spared no exertions in this direction. This has seemed to be a more imperative duty because of the large amount of utterly trashy reading forwarded to our armies, and because of the large quantities professing to be religious reading, but filled with false doctrines and perversions of Scripture adapted more

or less to lead our brave defenders away from Christ as a divine and all-sufficient Saviour.

SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.

The same report shows the active work of the Board in regard to Sabbath-school books :

In obedience to the frequently-expressed will of the General Assembly, as well as in accordance with what the Board believes to be a pressing want of the Church at large, it has continued to add to its Sabbath-school library as fast as it could judiciously do so. During the year 33 new volumes have been added to the Board's Sabbath-school library, making the whole number of volumes now contained therein 380. These have been selected with the utmost care from the materials available, while a large number of manuscripts proffered for this use have been rejected.

May we not venture to put forth just here a word of entreaty to pastors, and to all others interested in the spiritual welfare of the children, that they will see to it that the Sabbath-school libraries in their respective churches are made up of proper and profitable books, and of no others? It is truly lamentable to see with how much carelessness new purchases for such libraries are frequently made. We have often seen upon the book-shelves in Sabbath-schools connected with our largest and most intelligent churches books in which were conveyed the views of other denominations—views directly opposed to those of the Standards of our Church. In vain will the Presbyterian Church by its Board provide safe and profitable Sabbath-reading for her own children unless pastors and others having

the matter in charge take pains to have this reading placed within the reach of those for whom it was prepared.

ASSEMBLY SUPERVISION.

The work of the Board passed under the careful supervision of the General Assembly from year to year. The action of this body uniformly showed a deep sense of the importance of the work and a hearty appreciation of the diligence and wisdom with which it was prosecuted. The Assembly of 1862 renewed this approval by the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That this General Assembly continue to regard the Board of Publication as a most ^{intelligent} and efficient agency of the Church in disseminating and defending divine truth, and approves of the wisdom, prudence and energy with which the affairs of the Board have been conducted during the year.

Various complaints and criticisms had, however, been made in different parts of the Church and found expression in the Assembly with regard to the policy and work of the Board. The Corresponding Secretary, therefore, earnestly requested the Assembly to appoint a special committee of inquiry in regard to the affairs and operations of the Board. The following resolutions were thereupon adopted :

Resolved, 1. That, in view of criticisms made in this and former General Assemblies, a committee of nine ministers and ruling elders, of which the moderator of this General Assembly shall be chairman, be appointed to make a thorough examination of the affairs of the Board of Publication, and report to the next General Assembly.

Resolved, 2. That said committee shall meet in the city of Philadelphia, at the call of its chairman; and the Board is hereby directed to give free and full opportunity to the committee in carrying out the objects of its appointment and any information the committee may desire to procure. And all persons, from any part of the Church, shall have full opportunity, and are requested, either in person or by writing, to present to the committee any objections or doubts they may entertain in regard to the plans and operations of the Board.

Resolved, 3. That the Board of Publication be directed to pay the traveling and other necessary expenses of the members of the committee from its treasury.

This committee met September 19, 1862, and was in session for six days, spending seven hours of each day, except the last, in careful, united consultations and investigations. They used, also, various means of securing information outside of the committee-room, and endeavored to obtain a full understanding of the matters assigned by the General Assembly for their investigation.

The Board extended a cordial welcome to the committee, and gave them every facility in the prosecution of their inquiries. Full hearing was given to those who complained of the Board, and also to its officers, members and friends in explanation and support of its operations and policy. The result of their investigations was presented to the General Assembly of 1864 in a unanimous report which, when published, filled twenty-four closely-printed pages. The report discussed at length the several matters of complaint: 1. The character of the publications put forth by the Board;

2. The financial affairs of the Board, including (1) the capital and its increase, (2) the salaries of the officers and the working expenses of the Board, (3) the cost of production and the prices and agencies of the Board, and (4) the general efficiency of its management; 3. The colportage work; 4. The periodicals. The committee closed their report with the expression of their earnest hope that the past history of the Board might prove but its time of preparation for enlarged usefulness, that renewed confidence might be placed in it by the churches, that greater efficiency and influence might belong to all its operations, and that the labors of the committee might tend to secure these results.

The Assembly, after considerable discussion, approved of the principles expressed by the committee touching the character of the Board's publications, and commended the efforts of the Board to furnish reading more and more attractive, acceptable and useful to the Church. It also approved of the theory of colportage as expressed in the report of the special committee, directed the Board to consider carefully the matter of superintendents of colportage, the suggestions of the committee respecting the employment of colporteurs, and renewedly commended this whole matter to the confidence, liberality and prayers of God's people.

The Assembly also directed certain changes in the way of retrenchment: 1. That the separate office of Editor be discontinued, and its duties be assigned to the Corresponding Secretary; 2. That the office of Treasurer, as a distinct one, be dispensed with, and the duties

thereof be added to those of the Superintendent of Colportage; 3. That the duties of Publishing Agent be assigned to the Superintendent of Depository, without any increase of salary; 4. That the office and salary of Solicitor be discontinued; 5. That the periodical department be placed under the charge of one individual, chosen by the Board, who should be responsible for its conduct, receiving for his compensation thirteen hundred dollars per annum, he being required to furnish clerks and assistants at his own expense; 6. That payments for matter for the *Sabbath-School Visitor* be discontinued until they can be made from the income of the paper. A series of resolutions intended and adapted to give full efficacy to the action of the Assembly was immediately adopted by the Board.

Whatever opinions may have been entertained in various quarters respecting the action of the Assembly, the Board unhesitatingly obeyed these directions, and diligently endeavored to carry them into effect, with the earnest hope that its future progress might be marked with an immunity from further external and agitating discussions, and by the bestowal upon it from all sides of that generous confidence so necessary to its enlarged usefulness.

That this hope was not without foundation will appear from the action of the Assembly of 1865:

Resolved, 1. That each successive year affords additional evidence that the Board of Publication is a most efficient agency in disseminating and defending divine truth, and that, whilst the General Assembly rejoices in the increasing usefulness of the Board, it approves of the fidelity,

discretion and vigor with which its affairs are conducted.

Resolved, 2. That it is especially gratifying to the Assembly that the Board, in obedience to the calls both of piety and of patriotism, has continued to make liberal contributions of its publications to the army and navy, to the sick and wounded soldiers and sailors in our hospitals, to military prisoners, and to many among those whom God in his righteous providence has delivered from bondage, and affectionately urges upon the churches the importance of a still more liberal co-operation in a work which in itself is so excellent, and which has been so signally favored by God.

Resolved, 3. That the endeavors of the Board to furnish the children and youth of our Church and country with a literature not only adapted to interest them and beget a love of reading, but to cultivate their taste, to improve their understandings, and, by the grace of God, to purify their hearts, meet with the heartiest approval of the Assembly; and it is recommended with special emphasis to all who love our beloved Zion and desire the improvement and salvation of our dear youth by every means to aid the Board in this most important department of labor. . . .

Resolved, 6. That the General Assembly directs the attention of the Board to the importance of a more extensive distribution of the books, tracts and papers of the Board throughout all the churches of our connection, and urges every pastor and church Session to see that the pure literature of our Church—subjected as it is, in advance of issue, to careful examination—be circulated in preference to any other. To this end, prominent laymen and the superintendents and teachers of Sabbath-schools should be furnished with the well-arranged *Descriptive Catalogue* of the Board; and in many instances care should be taken

to secure the occasional visits of a colporteur. While not depreciating the merits of other religious publishing societies, we are sure that the Presbyterian Board of Publication, judged by its works, has no superior, and it is due to the interests of religion and the Church that preference should be accorded to them.

During the remaining years of its third decade, with the emphatic and annually-repeated approval of the Assembly and increased favor of the Church, the Board made encouraging advance in every department of its work. Many and valuable additions were made to the catalogue of its publications. Its plans of distribution were enlarged and systematized. The distribution fund was united with the colportage fund, and thenceforward defrayed the expenses of the colportage work, and also bore the cost of the grants of books and tracts made by the executive committee. In all these plans of production, distribution and sustentation the Board received the hearty support of the Church. The Assembly of 1868 unanimously adopted the report of its standing committee on publication, which bore testimony to the good work of the Board as follows:

Your committee have been deeply impressed with the peculiar importance of the work committed to this Board, and the urgent necessity there is that it should be done vigorously and efficiently. A good wholesome literature is not only indispensable in securing the perpetuity of a Church constituted like ours, but it is also, as experience has shown, one of the best means for carrying on the work of evangelization. It ought, then, to be a subject of no ordinary concern to the Assembly to know what efforts the Board is making to supply the wants of the Church

through the channel of the press, and what success has attended its attempts to preach the gospel by means of the printed page.

The thirtieth annual report presented by this Board is so complete and satisfactory, that your committee has had no difficulty in reaching a unanimous opinion concerning it.

After giving a brief outline of the work of the Board during the year under review, the committee presented a series of resolutions which were also unanimously adopted by the Assembly. We quote a part of them :

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly has heard with pleasure and gratitude to God of the increased measure of success that has attended the labors of the Board of Publication during the past year in the face of more than ordinary difficulties. While it commends the fidelity of the Board to its sacred and important trust, it would also call the attention of all under the Assembly's care to the importance of sustaining it, that it may be rendered still more efficient.

Resolved, 2. That it gives special pleasure to the Assembly to learn that the Sabbath-school books issued by the Board are so generally and cordially approved by those engaged in the Sabbath-school work. In order to make this department still more effective, it is recommended to the Board to make diligent effort to print and circulate a larger number of books adapted to that class of the young who are more advanced in years and culture.

Resolved, 5. That the Assembly directs the Board to make special effort during the coming year to enlarge and extend the work of colportage.

The Board endeavored faithfully to carry out the

suggestions and directions of the Assembly thus expressed. The Assembly of 1869 commended the operations of the Board during the preceding year as "conducted with wisdom, efficiency and encouraging success," exhorted our church Sessions and Sabbath-school superintendents to promote the increasing circulation of its periodicals, directed the Board to enlarge its work of colportage in the openings for it that were multiplying on every hand, and to this end exhorted all our churches to contribute to the fund for this purpose. It also recommended that the Board should be furnished with the means for supplying needy ministers with its publications for their own use, and for distribution among those unable to purchase them, and, in view of the great good arising from the gratuitous circulation of the tracts of the Board, it earnestly commended to the attention of churches and individuals the importance of special donations for this purpose.

REV. WILLIAM M. ENGLS, D. D.

The report of 1868 noted the death of five members of the Board during the preceding year, all faithful sons of the Presbyterian Church who had rendered important services to the Board. Of one of them we feel constrained to speak at greater length because of his intimate and long-continued relations to the Board.

The Rev. William M. Engles, D. D., died November 27, 1867, at his residence, in Philadelphia, after an illness of a few days, and in the seventy-first year of his age. The Board was probably more indebted to him than to any other one man for its existence and

usefulness, especially during the first twenty years of its history. In all the incipient measures which led to its organization, and afterward to its adoption and reorganization by the General Assembly, he took a prominent part. He was a member of its executive committee, and continued to serve uninterruptedly in that capacity until June, 1863. He was likewise, from the first, editor of the Board's publications, and every one of them passed under his eye and hand until that date. In 1865 he was elected president of the Board—an office which he continued to fill with dignity and Christian courtesy and warm devotion to the Board's interests until his removal by death. His usefulness in connection with this Board the Church can never fully appreciate. His sound judgment rarely allowed him to fall into a mistake. His extensive reading and his thorough and discriminating orthodoxy placed upon the Board's catalogue a large variety of the most approved Calvinistic books, both of our own country and of Great Britain, yet kept its list to a remarkable degree free from all admixture of error. A large number of old and valuable works which had become nearly extinct because of their cumbrous style were revised and abridged by him, and have had an extensive circulation and great usefulness in every part of the land. In all this editorial work he had a most valued colaborer and assistant in his brother, of whose services as the Publishing Agent of the Board we have already spoken.

Dr. Engles was also himself the author of a large number of valuable books and tracts, nearly all of

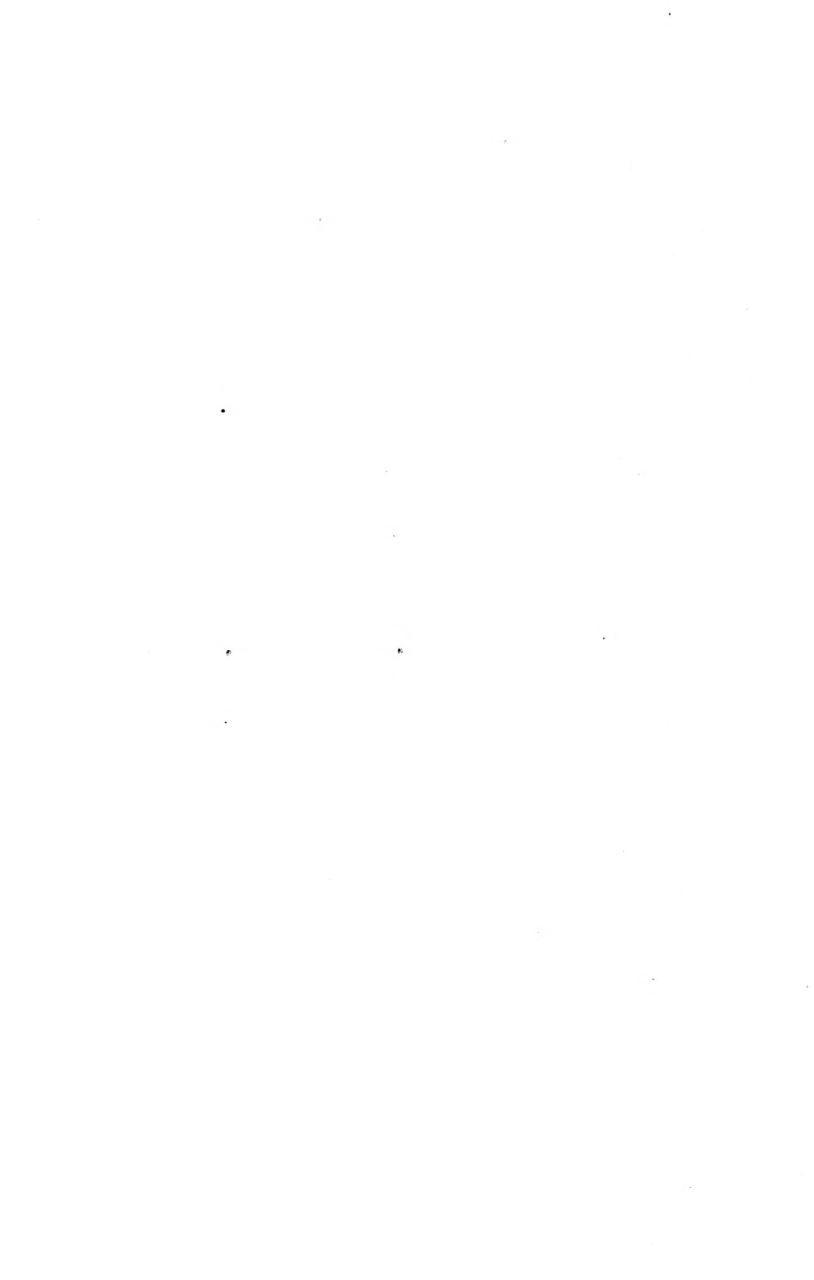
which were published anonymously. Among these, his *Sick-room Devotions* has carried life and comfort to thousands of chambers of sickness. His little work *The Soldier's Pocket Book*—of which about three hundred thousand in English and German were circulated among our soldiers during the war—achieved an untold and unspeakable amount of good.

In 1870, at the Reunion, the Board reported the net value of its issues during the year \$114,763.84, and the total number of copies of books and tracts issued by the Board since its organization 15,132,738. Its catalogue contained the names of 1720 publications, and its capital amounted to \$294,737.68.

The last page of that final report of the old Board will form a fitting close to this sketch of its history :

It seems proper for the Board, in view of the recent action of the Joint Committee on Publication appointed by the two General Assemblies at Pittsburgh, and of the probable action of the approaching Assembly thereon, to make a brief allusion to the past and to the future. The work of publication was taken up by the General Assembly, and this Board organized by it in the year 1838. Nearly all the members originally appointed by the Assembly have passed away from earth and earthly labors, and the present members have from time to time been chosen to fill their places. They have become ardently attached to the Board and its work, believing them to be wisely adapted to bless mankind, to strengthen our beloved Church and to glorify God. They have taken pleasure in helping forward that work, and have found the associations into which it has drawn them with each other, and with many now in

heaven, exceedingly agreeable and profitable. The providence of God and the voice of his Church now call this Board to enter upon a new phase of its history, and to pass either wholly or in part into the hands of other managers. It seems proper, therefore, for the present members to express, in closing this report, their heartfelt prayer that God may greatly enlarge the work and usefulness of this beloved Board, that he may make it a perpetual and growing power for the diffusion of his blessed truth, and that he may richly impart, by his Holy Spirit, wisdom, zeal, energy, favor with all his people, and abundant success to all who may hereafter participate in controlling and guiding its operations.



II.

PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

1852—1870.

PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

PRELIMINARY ACTION.

THE New School branch of the Church began the work of publication about fifteen years after the disruption. Certain preliminary action had, however, been taken in several General Assemblies preceding that of 1852, by which this plan was adopted.

In 1846 an overture on the subject of doctrinal tracts was reported, and referred to a committee of two from each Synod. This overture had its origin in the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention that met at Detroit, Michigan, the year previous, by which the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That, in view of the peculiar wants of the churches which harmonize with this Convention in doctrine and benevolent action for the conversion of the world, it is expedient and proper that measures should be adopted to furnish a full supply of doctrinal and other religious books and tracts.

To insure the success of the measure proposed, it was resolved—

1. That a committee be appointed to correspond with such Congregational bodies at the East as they may select, and confer with the next Constitutional General Assembly, and co-operate with them to mature a plan, and as

far as practicable and expedient carry the same into effect, and report their doings to the Convention of 1847.

2. That in carrying out the objects of the Convention in supplying the churches with such doctrinal and other religious books and tracts as are especially needed, we recommend that a Board of Publication should be appointed which will fairly represent the different sections of territory and the two denominations composing this Convention.

This plan for co-operative action was subsequently abandoned, and the two denominations, unable to work together in reference to this object, determined to prosecute it separately. In the General Assembly for a time the commencement of the enterprise was a matter of no little difficulty. Committees were appointed, made their reports and were discharged; smaller committees were substituted for larger ones; reports were read, discussed and recommitted; but no plan was developed which was sufficiently feasible to warrant its adoption. Such was the history of the cause in the General Assembly from 1846 to 1850.

THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED.—ITS POWERS AND DUTIES.

In 1852 the subject came up in connection with the general matter of Church Extension. The Assembly adopted a carefully-prepared report, which led to the formation of the permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry, the Committee on Church Election and the Publication Committee. The third section of this report, which related to the publication of doctrinal tracts, was as follows:

To promote the diffusion of those truths which distinguish us as a Church, the General Assembly adopts the following arrangement :

1. There is hereby established at Philadelphia a Standing Committee of nine persons, whose duty it shall be to superintend the publication of a series of tracts explanatory of the doctrines, government and missionary policy of the Presbyterian Church as the General Assembly shall from time to time direct. One-third of this Committee shall serve for one year, one-third for two years and the remaining third for three years, the election to fill the places of those whose term expires to be held at each meeting of the General Assembly.

2. This Committee shall elect a secretary and treasurer, the former of whom shall receive such a salary per annum as shall be agreed upon by the Committee, and shall be the editor of the tracts published ; and also, as far as may be necessary, the soliciting agent for such an amount of funds as may be required to carry out the objects for which this Committee is appointed.

3. It shall be the duty of this Committee to meet at Philadelphia, and after due organization to take measures to procure the preparation and publication in cheap, neat and substantial form of a series of tracts for the purposes above stated, no tract to be published which does not receive the unanimous approbation of the Committee.

4. This Committee shall, if consistent with the interests of the Assembly, enter into a contract with some publisher or publishers to assume for a time the publication of such tracts as may be furnished them, at certain rates, which shall be agreed upon in writing. And if no such arrangement can be profitably and satisfactorily made, then the said Committee shall, by solicitation from the churches,

proceed to provide a sufficient fund for their publication in behalf of the Assembly.

5. This Committee shall make a full report of its proceedings to the General Assembly at each annual meeting.

The following persons were appointed the Committee to superintend the preparation and publication of doctrinal tracts—viz. Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes and Mr. T. S. Bodine, for one year; Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D., Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., and Rev. George Duffield, Jr., for two years; Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., and Hon. William Darling, for three years.

The Committee at its first meeting elected the Rev. Albert Barnes its chairman—an office which he continued to hold until April 18, 1870.

The Committee presented its first annual report to the Assembly of 1853, and the following resolutions were adopted:

That the rule requiring the unanimous consent of the Committee for the publication of any book or tract be so modified that a majority of three-fourths only shall be required.

That the Committee be authorized to take such measures as they may deem advisable to secure the necessary funds for the erection of a house of publication.

That it be earnestly recommended to all our churches to take up collections, annually or otherwise, in aid of the publishing fund under the control of this Committee.

That we suggest to the Publication Committee the desirableness of issuing, as soon as practicable, a few tracts which shall clearly and distinctly exhibit our peculiar

views of doctrine, government and missionary policy, with a view to answer the calumnies against us and show our true position in the Church and in the world.

THE COMMITTEE ENLARGED.

The Assembly of 1854, without giving further instructions to the Committee on this point, expressed its sense of "the great importance of this work and the desirableness of a religious literature suitable to the wants of the denomination."

It also enacted "that the Publication Committee be enlarged to the number of fifteen, nine of whom shall reside in the city of Philadelphia or vicinity; that of this number five shall constitute a quorum for ordinary business, whose sittings shall be in the city of Philadelphia; but nothing shall be authorized for publication, issued or endorsed by said Committee except by a majority of its members, all publications to issue simultaneously in the two cities of New York and Philadelphia with the *imprimatur* of the Committee."

CHANGE OF NAME.

The Assembly of 1855 changed the name of the Committee to "The Presbyterian Publication Committee." In this action we discern the first official intimation of an enlargement of the view of the work to be done by this agency beyond the idea of a mere "Doctrinal Tract Committee." This action enlarging the scope of the Committee's work, was followed in 1857 by the laying down of a broad platform upon which

to build up a full denominational and Christian literature. The Assembly—

Resolved, That the power of the press in promoting true piety and a widespread intelligence among our population is an instrumentality appointed of God, and now put into our hands to be employed for the advancement of the general interests of religion and for the prosperity of our own denomination.

Resolved, That the Publication Committee be encouraged to publish not only such works as may present the peculiarities of our branch of the Christian Church in doctrine and practice, but from time to time such works of an evangelical character as may be profitable to the Church at large.

In this action the Committee, from 1857 onward, found its general orders from the denomination as to the objects which it should seek to effect. The aim of the Committee was made by these instructions broad and full, comprehending both a distinctly denominational literature—a literature explaining our doctrines and polity—and an evangelical literature; not merely a literature controversial and peculiar, but also Christian and practical, and adapted to usefulness to the Church at large; in short, a full expression through the press of the truth of God as held by us in all its bearings and applications both to doctrine and to life.

The instructions thus given were steadily kept in view and carried out by the Committee so far as means were put at their disposal. The strong attachment of the body to co-operative Christian effort led some at the outset to regard, if not with hostility, at least with

suspicion, anything that had the appearance of a denominational movement. From year to year, however, this feeling diminished, and the Committee, in the enlarged scope of its work, grew in the favor and support of the Church.

PUBLICATION HOUSE.

As early as September 20, 1852, a sub-committee appointed to ascertain what arrangements could be made for the publication and sale of tracts at various book-stores were led, as a result of their unsuccessful endeavor to find a publisher and their subsequent investigations as to this matter, to report as follows:

WHEREAS, The history of other denominations leaves us no doubt whatever as to the course which it is best for our denomination to pursue in order to establish the publication cause upon a permanent basis; therefore,

Resolved, That immediate measures be taken for the creation of a fund which, when large enough for the purpose, shall be invested in a suitable lot and building.

The Assembly of 1853 authorized the Committee to take such measures as they deemed advisable to secure the necessary funds for this purpose. A beginning was made which greatly added to their courage in the enterprise and to their hope of its ultimate success. But several sources of embarrassment presented themselves which could be obviated only by a steady patience and the lapse of time. One of these—and probably the most influential of all—was the consideration that the voice of the Church had never definitely decided the particular *place* for the House of Publication.

To obviate this objection and hold out to the General Assembly of 1854 a substantial inducement to choose the city of Philadelphia for this purpose, several wealthy laymen, by the advice and request of the Committee, took the matter into consideration. The more they looked at the enterprise, the more it grew in favor with them. Just at this point the property No. 1334 Chestnut Street was offered to them. The offer required prompt, and indeed immediate, acceptance; but the indications of Providence were too clear to be resisted. The property was purchased and alterations were made in the building then standing upon it at a cost of forty-five thousand dollars. These alterations having been satisfactorily completed, the house was opened, with appropriate religious ceremonies, November 20, 1854. The proposal of the Philadelphia gentlemen was that twenty thousand dollars should remain on mortgage, to be paid by a sinking fund from rents; that of the remaining twenty-five thousand dollars, twelve thousand five hundred should be given by the churches in Philadelphia, and twelve thousand five hundred by the churches of other Synods. This proposal was accepted by the Assembly, and "Trustees of the Presbyterian House" were appointed. An act of incorporation was obtained under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, and approved by the Governor, April 21, 1855. The corporation created by this act was styled "The Trustees of the Presbyterian House." The original corporators were John A. Brown, Samuel H. Perkins, Charles S. Wurts, Matthew W. Baldwin and John C. Farr, all of whom have passed away.

These trustees held their first meeting June 22, 1855, and organized by electing John A. Brown president and Benjamin J. Wallace secretary of the corporation.

A permanent centre of operations was thus secured for the Publication Committee, and such other religious enterprises in connection with our denomination as should have a representation in Philadelphia. A bookstore was opened July 1, 1855, for the sale of the Committee's publications, and of other books consistent with its designs.

In 1855, and again in 1856, it was found that the sums to be raised in the Synods out of Pennsylvania had not been secured. The Assembly of 1856, therefore, recommended the taking up of a simultaneous collection in all the churches in December of that year, with the view of raising thirty thousand dollars—one half for the completion of the purchase of the house, and one half for the use of the Publication Committee. The whole amount thus raised was only about six thousand dollars—a sum alike unworthy of the Assembly's recommendation and of the cause. The collection may have been a "simultaneous" one so far as it went, but it certainly was not a general one.

The President of the Board of Trustees, Mr. John A. Brown, who had from the beginning taken a deep interest in the enterprise, so soon as it was fully understood that the amount needed to pay for the house so far that but twenty thousand dollars would be left on ground-rent, would not be realized from the simultaneous collection, at once proposed to pay ten thousand dollars, the necessary sum, himself, on condition that a

similar sum be raised in the city of Philadelphia, to relieve the Publication Committee from the embarrassment in which the failure of the simultaneous contribution had involved it. This offer was promptly and generously met, and the Presbyterian House, then valued at fifty thousand dollars, was secured to the denomination. The whole amount raised in Philadelphia for the Presbyterian House and the Publication Committee then exceeded *forty thousand dollars*.

The General Assembly of 1857, in order to secure to the Publication Committee the full advantage of the charter of the Presbyterian House, adopted the following resolution :

Resolved by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, That the Trustees of the Presbyterian House be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to act in their corporate capacity as Trustees of the Permanent Committee of this Assembly, called "The Presbyterian Publication Committee," as fully, and in the same manner, as if the Presbyterian Publication Committee were themselves constituted a corporation by the same authority which incorporated the Trustees of the Presbyterian House.

SECRETARY AND EDITOR.

In 1857, when the enlargement of the scope of the Committee's issues was ordered by the Assembly, the Rev. John W. Dulles entered the service of the Committee as Secretary and Editor, and began for the Church what proved thenceforward his life-work. At that time "the treasury of the Committee contained

three thousand dollars of debt and some uncollected subscriptions; its catalogue, four tracts, three books and an almanac." The Assembly of 1858 recommended that "the sum of sixteen thousand dollars be raised for the use of the Publication Committee for the ensuing year." Only a little more than one-half of this amount was received, and early in 1859 it was clearly seen that nothing but a prompt and liberal measure of relief would free the enterprise from most serious embarrassment. In this emergency the friends of our Church in Philadelphia were called upon once more to lend their assistance for an enterprise for which they had already done so much. The response to this appeal was a subscription of ten thousand dollars, one-half of which was liberally contributed by Mr. John A. Brown.

In the midst of difficulties and discouragements from the inadequacy of its capital to the work to be done, the Committee went forward, steadily adding to its moderate list of publications, and making grants of books and tracts to the destitute, as far as its limited resources would permit, and appealed to the Assembly of 1862 for a fresh consideration of the claims of the cause. This appeal was met by a discussion which ended in the appointment of a special committee of seven "to take up and consider the whole subject, and settle clearly and definitely its course of action for the future, and give to the churches the reasons for that course."

With the report presented by the Publication Committee in 1863, and then heartily adopted by the Gen-

eral Assembly, came the dawn of a new era in the publication work. The Assembly—

Resolved, 1. That the publication cause should now be considered one of the established institutions of our Church.

Resolved, 2. That true loyalty to our home interests and policy demands of all our ministers and all our church-members devoted attachment to this cause and its cordial support.

* * * * *

Resolved, 6. That we enter at once upon energetic measures for raising the sum of fifty thousand dollars, to be apportioned, according to some judicious plan, among our churches, and that this fund be employed by the Publication Committee as may seem to them best for the furtherance of the great interest they are prosecuting under God and the General Assembly.

The following resolutions were also adopted in response to an overture from the Publication Committee :

Resolved, First. That the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America do hereby declare that the property 1334 and 1336 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, is, and shall be, held by the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to, for, and upon the following uses, intents and purposes—that is to say, in trust to permit and suffer the Presbyterian Publication Committee, subject to the said General Assembly and their successors, to let and demise, use, occupy and enjoy, the said property, and every part thereof, they paying all taxes and ground-rent thereon, and all proper and necessary repairs, and other expenses and charges thereon; and that the said Trustees shall have power, at the request of the said Pub-

lication Committee, to mortgage and improve the said property, or any part thereof.

Resolved, Second. That the Trustees of the Presbyterian House be, and they hereby are, directed to execute, under their corporate seal, and deliver to the said Publication Committee, such deed or deeds of declaration of trust for the purposes aforesaid, with all such powers, authorities, limitations and provisions, as shall be settled and advised by a committee of three legal gentlemen, to be appointed by the Assembly, to be requisite and necessary for the fully carrying into effect these resolutions.

The declaration of trust was made, and the management of the Presbyterian House was transferred to the Publication Committee, April 1, 1864.

The deliverances of the Assembly of 1864 imparted new life and energy to the publication work. Doubts and distrusts gave place to warm interest on the part of many, to cheerful co-operation on the part of others, and to acquiescence on the part of all. The measures resolved upon were carried into effect, and the Committee had the satisfaction of reporting to the Assembly of 1866 that the full sum of fifty thousand dollars had been secured for a working capital. With the finances of the Committee thus happily improved, the list of its publications was enlarged and its benevolent and missionary work extended.

BUSINESS SUPERINTENDENT.

The enlarging work of the Committee, with the consequent increase of labor, created a demand for a *Business Superintendent* competent not only to manage

the present amount of business, but also to secure its increase. The Rev. S. W. Crittenden was chosen to fill this post, and entered the service of the Committee November 1, 1865. Mr. Crittenden had peculiar qualifications for this office, which he continued to hold until the Reunion. The growing business of the Committee and the increase of its stock called, also, for an increase of accommodations, and an extension of the Publication House was erected in 1866-67. Still further enlargement was reported to the General Assembly of 1868.

The publication of *The Presbyterian Monthly*, a magazine representing the Committees charged by the General Assembly with its works of benevolence, was commenced with January, 1866.

THE SECRETARY'S DECENNIAL REPORT.

The Secretary, at the end of his first ten years' service, reported to the General Assembly of 1867 that the publications of the Committee numbered 364. Of these, 127 were leaflets, 71 were tracts and 166 were books. These publications combined the denominational with the evangelical, the general with the special. Provision was made for the young in a series of catechisms and lessons for the little ones; for the Sabbath-school there was a goodly and growing array of library-volumes; for the impenitent and inquiring were works to awaken and to counsel; for the Christian, books devotional, historical and controversial; and for the service of song, provision for the Sabbath-school, the social circle, the choir and the Church.

Though but a beginning had been made, that beginning was sound, symmetrical and promising, full of hope for the future, as of gratitude for the past.

The increase of publications was accompanied by a corresponding increase in the ability to give them circulation. "The Presbyterian Publication Committee" became known to the trade. Its sales rose from \$3,715.05, for the year ending May 1, 1858, to \$45,190.73, for the year ending May 1, 1867. A good foundation was laid upon which to build; a preparation made for widespread usefulness; an outlet provided for zeal for the spread of the truth through our country for the sake of the world.

COLPORTAGE WORK.

The Committee had the matter of entrance upon colportage work under favorable consideration for several years preceding the Reunion, and something was done in that direction. In the report to the General Assembly of 1866 we find the following expression of opinion upon this subject:

Our Lord, when giving to his disciples his last charge, did not command them to wait and give the truth to those who came for it, but rather *to go* and proclaim salvation to those who asked not for it. And so it must ever be. The truth, whether it be the spoken or the printed truth, must be carried to men. They will not come for it, precious though it be. Hence, if we would rightly use the power entrusted in THE PRESS, effort must be made to bear to the hands and homes of men these printed messengers and teachers. It will not do simply to publish valuable truth in books and tracts and look for men to seek them: the

more they need the less do they desire them. We shall not be true to the responsibilities laid upon us by God's providence unless we improve this power put into our hands by carrying the printed messages to the homes of the people. *Colportage*, in some form, must be adopted.

The Committee have not been in haste to enter upon a costly system of colportage centring in the Presbyterian House. They would rather encourage a system for which Presbyterianism is most happily adapted, by which the responsibility and control shall be in the hands of the Presbyteries and Synods, the Publication Committee furnishing the material for carrying out the Presbyterial or Synodical plan. We think that by a Presbyterial or Synodical colportage the awakening and instructive literature now issued by the Committee may be economically carried to the regions of which our churches and missionaries are the spiritual centres. Thus, with no intrusion upon them of an outside influence, the churches themselves, acting in Presbytery or Synod, will inaugurate and control an agency for the diffusion of a religious literature within their bounds. As their own it will have the countenance not only, but the active support, of every pastor, and full access to every family.

The standing committee of the General Assembly to which this report was referred reported that, in their judgment, "some system of colportage should be inaugurated, under the supervision of the Synods or Presbyteries, securing a more extended circulation to the publications of the Committee. The plan suggested is this: Let each Synod or Presbytery employ a colporteur, whose work shall be twofold—the disposal or sale of books, receiving his salary largely from commissions allowed, and co-operation with pastors in

attending upon social meetings and aiming to extend a deep religious interest throughout the bounds of the Presbytery or Synod. This would help many a deserving young man in his preparatory course, give a wide circulation to our literature, and encourage and facilitate the pastors in their work."

The Assembly approved the report, and unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

That the Synods or Presbyteries be recommended to appoint students, unemployed ministers or earnest Christian laymen as colporteurs to circulate the books of the Publication Committee, and to co-operate with pastors in every good word and work.

That a place of sale be designated in every town, where it shall be known that the Committee's publications may be obtained, and at the lowest retail price.

These recommendations were carried into only partial effect in some of the Synods and Presbyteries, yet with excellent results both in the circulation of the Committee's books and tracts and in the spiritual work accomplished. The Assembly of 1868 took further action upon the subject of colportage, and unanimously adopted the following:

It is a question of serious consideration whether a system of colportage might not be advantageously inaugurated by the Publication Committee especially with a view to the distribution of our publications in the congregations of our Church, and in new communities where there are Presbyterian families that have no churches of our order within their reach. Whatever dépôts may be provided in different sections of the country for the publications of the

Committee, these publications will not be generally sought after and sent for through mere notices of the places where they may be found. In these days, when all kinds of literature are carried to the doors of the people, our publications must be actually offered to the churches and individuals for whose benefit they are designed if they are to be widely distributed; and especially will this be found true in our newer States and Territories. We are aware that any system of colportage would involve expense, and would encounter the difficulty of finding suitable men to carry it forward. But would not the returns from the practical influence of such a system, in the form of increased contributions from the churches to be supplied with the publications, very soon compensate for all the expense of this branch of the work? And could not efficient laymen be found to engage in this effort who would give to it their time and energies on very moderate salaries?

Confiding in the practical wisdom of the Permanent Committee, we venture to recommend that they be instructed to institute a system of colportage with especial reference to the distribution of the publications of the Committee throughout all the congregations in our connection, as far as may in their judgment be found practicable and expedient.

The Publication Committee gave to these suggestions and recommendations the careful consideration which the authority of the General Assembly and the importance of the subject demanded. But, in view of the reunion movement, then advancing with such encouragement, entrance upon the colportage work was postponed, so as to avoid embarrassment in consolidating the two publication agencies.

SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.

The Committee from year to year attached a growing importance to its work for the Sabbath-school. In the issuing of new publications, books for youth held a very prominent place. Grants of its publications were made to needy schools as liberally as the funds at its disposal allowed. The employment of Synodical missionaries or of missionaries at large for Sabbath-school and colportage work was frequently considered. With the means at its disposal, the Committee did not feel justified in entering largely into this department of labor, involving, as it did, a considerable investment of capital and larger contributions from the churches. In May, 1869, the Committee reported to the General Assembly as follows :

The time has come, in the judgment of the Publication Committee, when the relations of the Sabbath-school work to the general work of the Publication Committee justify and demand the organization of a distinct departmental agency ; and a sub-committee on Sabbath-schools, therefore, has been appointed, and an organization effected.

It is not implied by this action that nothing hitherto has been done by the Publication Committee in this connection. The work of Sabbath-school extension, the aid of Sabbath-school mission work by the timely appropriation of libraries and the selection and diffusion of Sabbath-school literature have been prominently before them, and have formed an important part of their work for several years. But the growth of the publication interest, a better understanding of it on the part of the churches, the closer identification of this interest with our Sabbath-schools, the increased number of applications for libraries

and other Sabbath-school requisites and the Committee's increased facilities for meeting these applications have seemed to make it desirable that this department of the work should be assigned to a separate sub-committee.

It is designed that the work of this committee shall have regard—

1. To the general supervision of the Sabbath-school department of our work, involving the regulation and diffusion of a Sabbath-school literature that shall have responsible endorsement.

2. To the bringing this literature before the churches, so that our Sabbath-schools may be provided with books that shall be wholly unexceptionable.

3. To the awakening a deeper interest in the Sabbath-school cause throughout our bounds, and especially to promoting the work of Sabbath-school extension in our wide, destitute and mission fields, by correspondence, by personal agency and by grants of libraries.

4. Incidentally, and through an agent who may be employed for the general field, it is expected that improvement in the methods and spirit of teaching, in the conduct of schools and in the aims and appliances of teachers, etc. will be secured by the holding of local conventions and institutes.

To this end it is proposed that a general agent be at once employed who shall visit the churches and Sabbath schools, put them in connection with the Committee's work, acquaint himself with the needs of particular localities, and secure in every way possible the work of Sabbath-school extension and the promotion of Sabbath-school efficiency.

The Publication Committee are aware that this is the very work in part contemplated by the Assembly's permanent Sabbath-school Committee. But it is also a work that has already to a considerable extent, and for years,

been prosecuted by the Publication Committee. The issue of reliable Sabbath-school books is one of the principal features of the business department of publication, the missionary work of the Publication Committee is very largely in this direction, and it is submitted whether, with more complete organization, the work cannot be done more efficiently and economically inside the Publication Committee than by an independent agency.

It needs no argument to prove that it is unwise to create new machinery for work that can be done by an existing agency; that it is undesirable that the same duties should be assigned to two separate committees, as this would inevitably lead to a conflict of action; that two treasuries should be created, two sets of officials supported and two standing appeals to the churches made to sustain one class of operations.

Moreover, the Committee are fully persuaded that the already gratifying efficiency and growing power of the publication cause of our Church will be greatly augmented, and facilities for a much wider sphere of operations will be furnished, if their action shall be endorsed by the General Assembly.

The General Assembly approved these plans and authorized the Publication Committee, "at their discretion, to employ a General Agent to visit the churches and Sabbath-schools and bring them into connection with the Committee's work, and to devote himself to the cause of Sabbath-school extension, and to the promotion of higher efficiency in our Sabbath-schools generally."

This action was welcomed by the Committee, and a sub-committee on Sabbath-school work was appointed to attend to this most important department of church

work. After careful consideration, a minister deemed well qualified was recommended for the position of General Agent by the sub-committee and appointed by the General Committee. He, however, declined the office, and the Committee renewed its efforts to secure a man suitable for the post. Inquiry was made and correspondence had, but without a positive decision until the year was so far advanced, and the reunion of the two great branches of the Presbyterian Church so assured a fact, that it was deemed wise and delicate to postpone entering upon this new and important sphere of labor—with the hope, however, that in the new Board to be appointed by the General Assembly this department would be both wisely and efficiently inaugurated. How this hope was realized we shall see in subsequent pages of this history.

RESIGNATION OF THE REV. ALBERT BARNES.

The Committee, at its meeting April 18, 1870, received the resignation of its Chairman, the Rev. Albert Barnes. Identified as Mr. Barnes had been with the institution from its inception, and endeared as he was to its members, they could not accept his resignation without regret. Yet so positive were the terms of his resignation that they had no alternative but to receive it and release their honored and beloved colaborer. The Committee followed the earnestly-expressed desire of Mr. Barnes, and “merely recorded on its minutes the fact of his resignation and its acceptance, with no comment.” In a letter addressed to him they gave expression to the feelings which his

retirement occasioned. And on the 24th of December, 1870, only eight months after resigning his position as Chairman of the Publication Committee, Mr. Barnes was translated. He had gone to the home of a former parishioner to condole with him after a recent bereavement, and while sitting in the parlor, and suddenly, without any preintimation, he was summoned home, and in a moment was gone to be with his Lord.

During the last years preceding the Reunion there was a steady, healthful growth alike in the business and the benevolence of the Committee. The total sales for the year ending March 31, 1870, were \$48,876.85. In the purely benevolent department of its work the Committee expended \$8,880.28. Its catalogue of publications then contained the names of 503 works—127 leaflets, 100 tracts, and 276 books. Its capital amounted to \$122,544.50.

Its final report to the Assembly of the reunited Church gave the following *resumé* of its history and work :

For the last time, as the agency of a branch of the Presbyterian Church, does the Presbyterian Publication Committee present to the General Assembly its annual report. Eighteen years since, "The Doctrinal Tract Committee" was organized by the General Assembly, in 1852. In 1853 the Assembly suggested to it "the desirableness of issuing a few tracts" which should clearly exhibit the views of the body. In 1855 the title of the Committee was changed to that of "The Presbyterian Publication Committee," and in 1857 its sphere of operations was enlarged so as to cover the field of denominational and religious literature.

At this time the whole list of the Committee consisted

of four tracts, the Confession of Faith, Barnes's *Apostolic Church* and an almanac. The "Doctrinal-Tract" idea had totally failed to awaken the interest of the churches. Nor did the wider basis of a denominational literature rapidly kindle their enthusiasm. It was by slow steps, and earnest effort on the part of its friends, that the Committee secured a footing for the discharge of its duties, and in 1865 a capital of \$50,000 as a foundation for its publication work.

With the ability to do something tangible and useful, the cause advanced in the interest and affection of the churches. Since 1865 its growth has been steady, cheering and satisfactory. The Committee's list of publications has had a healthful increase, and of late years its books and tracts have been issued rapidly, and have met with great and increasing approbation from those within the bounds of the denomination, as well as with commendation from Christians of other branches of the Church. At the same time, through the gifts of the churches, the Committee, by the gratuitous distribution of its publications, has done noble service to the cause of Christ. Home missionaries and their fields of labor, Sabbath-schools, the freedmen and earnest Christians have thus been helped, and the preaching of the printed page has been added to the preaching of the Christian voice and life.

In laying down its trust the Presbyterian Publication Committee would devoutly render thanks to God for his blessings upon labors sincerely, though often imperfectly, performed.

III.

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

1870—1887.

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

REUNION AND CONSOLIDATION.

THE reunion of the two Branches, Old and New School, into which the Church was divided in 1838, was happily effected in November, 1869. The two General Assemblies, meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, by which the Basis of Reunion was declared to be of binding force, appointed each a special Committee of Five to take into consideration the affairs of the "Presbyterian Board of Publication" and the "Presbyterian Publication Committee," and to recommend to the Assembly of 1870 what changes were required for the union of the two organizations in one. These two Committees formed the Joint Committee of Ten on Publication, and consisted of the following gentlemen :

Rev. Z. M. Humphrey, D. D.,
Rev. William E. Schenck, D. D.,
Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, D. D.,
Rev. William P. Breed, D. D.,
Rev. John W. Dulles,
Rev. Elijah R. Craven, D. D.,
Mr. James M. Browner,
John T. Nixon, Esq.,
John S. Knight, Esq.,
George Junkin, Esq.

The report of this Joint Committee was presented to the General Assembly of 1870 by Dr. Humphrey, and after amendment was adopted, as follows :

The special Committee of Five from each of the recent Branches of the Church appointed to take into consideration the affairs of the Publication Board and Committee of said Branches, and "to recommend to the Assembly of the United Church what changes are required in said Board and Committee," respectfully report,

That they have endeavored to give the matter referred to them that earnest and prayerful consideration which its importance demands.

They regard the work of the Church to be prosecuted through this agency as scarcely second to that of any of our Boards. It is not only closely related to our missionary enterprises, but is itself, in many of its aspects, a missionary work. Its aim is the dissemination of vital truth, both among congregations already established and among the people who are never reached by the heralds of salvation. It is at once auxiliary to the ministry and of itself a ministry. Every tract is, or should be, a message from God. Every Sunday-school book should be a preacher of righteousness.

To effect this work involves a liberal use of money, of mind, and of every resource committed by God to human hands.

The first necessity is a *Central House of Publication*, which should be endowed with every appliance needed for the preparation and the diffusion of religious literature. Economy, of course, should be studied. It is not, in our view, essential that large sums be invested in the machinery of publication, such as presses and binderies. The use of this machinery can be commanded without purchase. But it is essential that a proper house be provided

for the transaction of the business of this agency, and for the issue and circulation of its literature. The buildings erected for this purpose, and now under the control of the Assembly, are wholly inadequate. Both are small and ill-arranged. Neither has been found sufficient for the wants of the Church as divided; the work for the Church as united will be vastly greater than has ever yet been attempted. It is believed, also, that so far as possible all the operations of the United Church conducted from Philadelphia should be concentrated under one roof. The House of Publication should be virtually a *Presbyterian House*—a centre and a home for the denomination, a rallying-point for all the interests of the Church which the Assembly in its wisdom may localize in this city. The advantages of such a concentration in facilitating the transaction of the business of the Church, in promoting the general convenience, and in fostering a proper denominational life and spirit, are too obvious to require remark. But to effect this a new and extensive building must be erected, and it is believed that the recognition of this necessity by the Assembly will so enlist the sympathy of the Church as to secure the ready accomplishment of the plan submitted in the subjoined resolutions.

The second necessity is an efficient Board and proper officers. The Board should be constituted, we believe, of a comparatively small number of thoroughly practical, wise and energetic men, *all* of whom can be relied upon to attend the meetings of the Board, and to devote their personal attention to its operations. This number should be somewhat larger than may be required by the other Boards of the Church, inasmuch as its work will necessitate several sub-committees. It should be also somewhat larger than required by the constitution of these sub-committees, in order that vacancies in the committees

themselves may be readily filled by men of experience, and in order that perplexing questions may be submitted to the wisdom of a full council; yet the number should not be so large as to weaken a sense of individual responsibility.

Experience has proved that a few men, each of whom can be easily reached, all of whom have a vital interest in the trust confided to them, will perform any given labor more efficiently than a large Board whose members are so diffused as to be seldom collected, or as to forget the claims of a duty whose immediate field is far away.

The officers of this Board should be men adapted to their sphere, carefully selected, in number sufficient to conduct the business placed in their hands, and so remunerated that they can devote their entire time and energies to the work. The Board should also be empowered to employ such other assistants as in their judgment may be required.

The third necessity is the maintenance of a force of colporteurs sufficiently large to reach the outlying population of the land by the gospel, and to prepare the way for the establishment of churches wherever they may be made permanent and effectual. Provision should also be made for the supply of Sunday-school libraries, and of the general literature of the Board on the liberal terms of an enlarged Christian benevolence.

The fulfillment of these conditions will be found to require some changes, notwithstanding the admirable manner in which this work has been conducted hitherto. Our beloved Church has already accomplished so much in the direction indicated that we can refer to its past operations with just thanksgiving, but, while we think no great and radical changes in this department of our Christian work are desirable, the day has now come for an enlargement

of all our plans—a fresh and more vigorous movement in the development of a spirit of enterprise for Christ.

God's promises were always full. His providence now calls us to new faith in the promises, and to a new consecration to that work with which the fulfillment of the same glorious prophecy is associated.

We therefore respectfully recommend the adoption by this General Assembly of the following resolutions as comprehending the changes, in our judgment, required in order to the union and reorganization of the Presbyterian Board of Publication and the Presbyterian Publication Committee—viz.:

Resolved, 1. That the said Board and Committee are hereby united under the name and title of the “Presbyterian Board of Publication.”

2. That said Board shall henceforth be composed of forty-eight members, one-half of whom shall be ministers and one-half laymen. These members shall be divided into three classes, one class containing eight ministers and eight laymen, after the present year to be elected annually by the General Assembly for a term of three years.

3. In order to an immediate and thorough reorganization of the Board, all persons now members of the Board and the Committee are discontinued and their membership ceases, and the following persons, taken in equal number from each of the late Branches, are recommended to fill the three classes.

For the class whose term shall expire in May, 1871:

MINISTERS.

LAYMEN.

Rev. Alexander Reed, D. D.,	Henry E. Thomas,
Rev. J. Grier Ralston, D. D.,	John Sibley,
Rev. Robert M. Patterson,	James T. Young,
Rev. Thomas Murphy,	H. Lenox Hodge, M. D.,

MINISTERS.

Rev. Peter Stryker, D.D.,	Edwd. R. Hutchins, M. D.,
Rev. Stephen W. Dana,	William L. Hildeburn,
Rev. Richard H. Allen, D.D.,	William E. Camp,
Rev. William T. Eva,	Horatio B. Lincoln.

LAYMEN.

For the class whose term shall expire in May, 1872:	
Rev. Geo. F. Wiswell, D. D.,	George W. Simons,
Rev. John W. Dulles,	Joseph Allison,
Rev. Daniel March, D. D.,	Henry N. Paul,
Rev. H. Augustus Smith,	Edward Miller,
Rev. Willard M. Rice, D. D.,	James Ross Snowden,
Rev. F. R. Harbaugh,	John D. McCord,
Rev. M. B. Grier, D. D.,	Gilbert Combs,
Rev. Matthew Newkirk,	Gustavus S. Benson.

For the class whose term shall expire in May, 1873:

Rev. Wm. P. Breed, D. D.,	Morris Patterson,
Rev. Wm. E. Schenck, D. D.,	Winthrop Sargent,
Rev. D. A. Cunningham,	Archibald McIntyre,
Rev. Benjamin L. Agnew,	George Junkin,
Rev. Z. M. Humphrey, D. D.,	Samuel C. Perkins,
Rev. William E. Moore,	William E. Tenbrook,
Rev. Thos. J. Shepherd, D. D.,	Robert N. Willson,
Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D.,	Alexander Whilldin.

4. Said Board shall hold at least four regular meetings in the course of each year, in the months of June, October, January and April. Its first meeting shall be held at 821 Chestnut Street, at 4 o'clock P. M., on the second Tuesday of June of the present year.

5. The Executive Officers of the Board shall be a Secretary or Secretaries, whose title and duties shall be defined by the Board, and a Treasurer.

6. All other internal arrangements necessary for carry-

ing out the purposes of its organization shall be made by the Board of Publication after its reorganization.

7. Each Presbytery is directed to appoint one or more of its members a Presbyterial Publication Committee, which Committee shall in that Presbytery supervise the work of securing an annual collection for this Board from each of its churches; shall search out and recommend to the Board suitable persons to act as colporteurs; shall correspond with the Board in reference to its work in that Presbytery; and shall do whatever else may tend to promote the work and interests of the Board, and to secure thorough distribution of the Board's publications within and throughout the bounds of the Presbytery.

8. All the property, of whatever kind, now owned by the "Presbyterian Board of Publication" and by the "Presbyterian Publication Committee," or held by any Board of Trustees for the use and benefit of either of them, is hereby directed to be united, and placed in possession of "The Trustees of the Presbyterian Board of Publication," incorporated by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, and whose charter was approved by the Governor of the State on the 13th day of February, A. D. 1847. And, in order that the late two branches of the Presbyterian Churches, now happily reunited, may have, as nearly as possible, an equal representation in said Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Board of Publication (there now being enough vacancies by death and resignation to effect the changes proposed), the Board of Publication is directed at its next meeting, in the month of June, to elect the following persons to be members of this Board of Trustees:

For One Year.—Alexander Whilldin, Samuel C. Perkins, Archibald McIntyre.

For Two Years.—Morris Patterson, William E. Tenbrook.

For Three Years.—George Junkin, James Ross Snowden and Robert N. Willson.

9. The "Trustees of the Presbyterian House" are hereby directed to convey, by a good and sufficient legal title, to "The Trustees of the Presbyterian Board of Publication," the house and lot Nos. 1334 and 1336 Chestnut Street, now occupied by the Presbyterian Publication Committee in part as a book-store, and any other property now in their possession, or which may hereafter come into their possession, for the use of the Presbyterian Publication Committee; and should any legal difficulties be found in the way of making such a conveyance or transfer, then "The Trustees of the Presbyterian House" and "The Trustees of the Presbyterian Board of Publication" are hereby directed to procure, as speedily as possible, such special enactments from the Legislature of this State, or decrees of any courts of competent jurisdiction, as shall remove those difficulties.

10. The General Assembly recommends the Board of Publication, as soon as practicable after its reorganization, to sell its house and lot No. 821 Chestnut Street, and to provide a larger house, adequate to its now extended operations and to the prospective growth of its business, on the premises Nos. 1334 and 1336 Chestnut Street, or in that vicinity.

11. In order that the above recommendation may be carried out, so as to provide ample accommodations for the Board's future business, and for all our other Presbyterian interests in this city, it is recommended that the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be raised among our churches and people for the erection and equipment of said Presbyterian House, and all contributions made thereto shall be recognized as a part of the offering of five millions of dollars which it was at Pittsburgh resolved to raise.

12. All the Committees and officers of the Board of Publication, and of the Publication Committee, are requested to continue to perform their respective duties as at present, until otherwise directed by the newly-organized Board of Publication.

13. That the Board of Publication and the Publication Committee be directed to submit to the next General Assembly a full statement of the property of said Boards, consisting of real estate, copyrights, books, paper, plates, and any other assets, with an estimate of the value thereof.

The Report of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, together with that of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, was presented to the General Assembly of 1870, and by it referred to a Committee, of which the Rev. James McCosh, D. D., was Chairman. The report of that Committee was brought in by Dr. McCosh, and, after amendment, was adopted as follows :

Your Committee are satisfied that during the past year the "Board of Publication" and the "Presbyterian Publication Committee" have done the work committed to them faithfully and efficiently.

Your Committee appointed sub-committees to examine the Minutes of the Board of Publication for the past year, the Minutes of the Executive Committee of that Board, and the Report of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, and they report that they have found all these in a satisfactory state; and we recommend that the Minutes of the Board of Publication, and of its Executive Committee, be signed, as approved, by the Moderator of the General Assembly.

From the Report of the Board of Publication we learn that they have issued fifty new books, besides many tracts in the English, German, Portuguese and Spanish lan-

guages—in all, 128,500 copies of new publications; that of former publications they have issued 589,400 copies, and that since its organization the Board has published 15,182,788 copies of books and tracts. We are happy to find that the *Sabbath-School Visitor* has increased in circulation, and that now 156,000 copies are issued monthly. We have to express our regret that the circulation of the *Record* has decreased during the past year from 16,000 to 12,000 copies. The net value of the whole issues of the Board has been \$114,763, and the balance in the treasury at the end of the year, \$14,627.

The Presbyterian Publication Committee have published sixty-nine new publications, of which fifty-four are bound volumes. Since the year 1865 the work of publishing and circulating has been progressing steadily, and the results have been cheering and encouraging.

Special attention has been paid both by the Board and Committee to the preparing and issuing of a wholesome and lively Sabbath-school literature, fitted to interest the young, and yet free from the sensational features distinguishing so many of the works written for the use of the young in our day.

While your Committee believe that the Board of Publication and the Publication Committee have done all in their power to fulfill the trust committed to them, they are convinced at the same time that they have not been able to accomplish all that is required of them by the pressing wants of the country. We do trust that the newly-organized Board of the reunited Churches will be so sustained by ministers, Sabbath-school teachers and congregations that it will be able to do vastly more than the separated agencies could accomplish.

We find that the last General Assembly authorized the Presbyterian Publication Committee at its discretion to employ a general agent to visit the churches and Sabbath-

schools, and to bring them into connection with the Committee's work, and devote himself to the cause of Sabbath-school extension, and to the promotion of higher efficiency in our Sabbath-schools generally. In consequence of the prospective reunion of the two great Branches of the Presbyterian Church, the Committee did not take positive action on this proposal, but it is clear that they are deeply impressed with its great importance.

In view of the considerations thus brought before them, your Committee invite the attention of the newly-organized Board to the following points :

1. We recommend the Board to give special and prominent attention to Sabbath-school literature, and to its introduction into Sabbath-schools.

2. We recommend that the Board, at as early a date as possible, consider the propriety of establishing a department of Sabbath-schools, whose office it shall be to promote the number and efficiency of Sabbath-schools throughout the congregations of the Presbyterian Church.

3. We recommend that the excellent *Sabbath-School Visitor* should be circulated much more widely than it has hitherto been, and that the pastors and churches should exert themselves to secure this end.

4. We recommend that the two publications, the *Record* and the *Presbyterian Monthly*, be merged in one, and that measures be devised and adopted to have that one periodical competently edited and full of information likely to interest the families of our people.

5. Your Committee are deeply impressed with the importance of the colportage work conducted by the Board, and would strongly urge its extension as being the means best fitted to make known the truths of salvation to multitudes in our country, as to Roman Catholics and persons separated from the ordinary means of grace.

6. We recommend that the Board consider what may be the best means of effecting some understanding as to the issue of Books of Psalmody, and report on the subject to the next General Assembly.

7. Your Committee are happy to find that books and tracts have been furnished so generally to ministers, to domestic and foreign missionaries, and to Sabbath-schools, and they recommend that these gifts be continued and increased.

ORGANIZATION.

The new Board met June 14, 1870, and organized in accordance with the directions of the Assembly. The following officers were elected :

President.—Rev. Alexander Reed, D. D.

Vice-Presidents.—Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D.,
Morris Patterson, Rev. Matthew B. Grier, D. D.

Corresponding Secretary.—Rev. William E. Schenck, D. D.

Editorial Secretary.—Rev. John W. Dulles.

Recording Clerk.—Rev. Willard M. Rice, D. D.

Treasurer and Superintendent of Colportage.—Winthrop Sargent.

At a subsequent meeting of the Board, held September 27, 1870, Mr. John A. Black was elected *Business Superintendent*—an office for which his thirty years' experience in the service of the Board had given him peculiar qualifications.

A system of By-laws was adopted and the methods of administration were outlined. The entire work was divided into five branches, and entrusted to as many Permanent Committees, each caring for its own depart-

ment and reporting its actions for approval at the monthly meetings of the Board. These Committees were (1) *The Publishing Committee*, to which was given the examination of all manuscripts for books and tracts; (2) *The Periodical Committee*, having the oversight of the periodicals of the Board; (3) *The Missionary Committee*, with the charge of the colporteur work, gratuitous distribution and Sabbath-school work; (4) *The Business Committee*, with oversight and charge of the business and property of the Board; and (5) *The Auditing Committee*, whose duty it was to examine all bills and accounts due by the Board, and if correct approve them for payment; to oversee and direct the manner of keeping the accounts of the Board, and to audit the Treasurer's annual account.

TRUSTEES OF THE BOARD.

The gentlemen named by the Assembly were also elected as Trustees of the Board. They entered at once upon their work, and carried out faithfully the instructions given them. The property of the former Board and that of the Publication Committee were consolidated, the title being vested in the Trustees of the Board of Publication. The net capital of the reorganized Board, as appears from a Consolidated Balance Sheet dated October 15, 1870, amounted to \$417,282.18, of which the old Board of Publication furnished \$294,737.68 and the Publication Committee \$122,544.50.

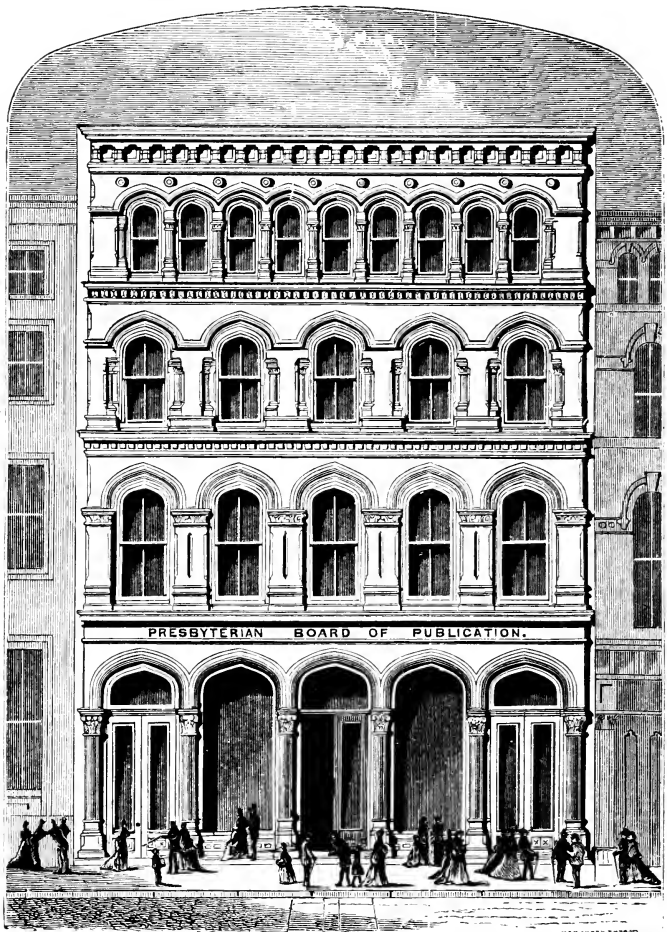
NEW PUBLICATION HOUSE.

The building previously occupied by the Board was

at once offered for sale, and the reorganized Board occupied the premises No. 1334 Chestnut Street. An able and experienced Building Committee was appointed to carry out the recommendation of the Assembly "to provide a larger house adequate to its extended operations, and to the prospective growth of its business, on the premises Nos. 1334 and 1336 Chestnut Street." The following-named gentlemen constituted this Committee :

William E. Tenbrook, Chairman,
Morris Patterson,
Edward Miller,
Gustavus S. Benson,
Hon. Joseph Allison,
John D. McCord,
Samuel C. Perkins,
George Junkin,
Alexander Whilldin.

The Committee prosecuted its work with commendable despatch. The new Publication House was completed and opened to the public November 20, 1872. The cost of the building and its furniture was \$149,356. Of this amount, \$50,000 were derived from the sale of the Publication House of the Old School branch. About \$57,451 were received from subscriptions and other sources (including a donation of \$25,000 from the late John A. Brown), and \$43,000 remained as an incumbrance upon the property. This, with the \$25,000 mortgage upon the property at the Reunion, made a mortgage debt of \$68,000, of which \$28,000 were paid in 1876 and \$40,000 in 1877, thus



PUBLICATION HOUSE, 1334 CHESTNUT STREET.

removing all incumbrance within less than five years from the completion of the edifice.

The Publication House presents a handsome granite front of forty-four feet in width and four stories in height on Chestnut Street. It is two hundred and thirty feet deep, running through to Sansom Street, in the rear. The basement is fireproof throughout, and is used mainly for the storage of stereotype plates. The entire first floor is occupied by the book-store, with its retail and wholesale departments. The second story contains a large Assembly-Room, which is used for meetings not only of the Board, but also of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, of the Ministers' Association, of the Trustees of the General Assembly, and a variety of other interests and institutions of the Presbyterian Church centring naturally in Philadelphia. On the same floor are also the offices of the Board of Publication, of the Assembly's Board of Education, and of its Board of Ministerial Relief. The last two named, which are the only benevolent schemes of the General Assembly located in Philadelphia besides the Board of Publication, immediately on the opening of the new House, took possession of the apartments which the Board of Publication had invited them to occupy without charge for rent, light or fuel, thus saving these two institutions of the Church from an annual expenditure of several thousands of dollars. The Woman's Foreign Missionary Board has apartments on the same terms in the third story, which, with this exception, is chiefly used for the storage of merchandise connected with the book-store.

The Board of Publication, in the erection of this edifice, did far more than merely provide the accommodations necessary for its own varied operations. It conferred a benefaction on the whole Presbyterian Church, and especially on all its interests and institutions centring in Philadelphia. It supplied to them all, without charge, convenient headquarters and a place for their meetings—a denominational *home* where our ministers, our ruling elders, our Sabbath-school superintendents and teachers and all the members of our churches may come together as members of the same Christian family and have their zeal and courage stimulated to undertake new enterprises for Christ and his Church. It has proved a great blessing to our Church; from it are continually going forth new and mighty impulses for the cause of truth.

CONSOLIDATION OF CATALOGUES.

An important and laborious duty of the united Board in entering upon its work was the revision and consolidation in one Catalogue of the lists of the late Board and Committee of Publication. In uniting these lists it was decided, as a general rule, to throw out only such works as contained “invidious references to past controversies.” To prevent embarrassment in the revision, a number of works discussing topics connected with the disruption had been during the preceding year withdrawn from both catalogues, in every case on the expressed request or with the hearty concurrence of surviving authors. Other works which incidentally alluded to past differences were subjected

to a careful revision, and, when it was deemed expedient, alteration.

Thus the chief difficulties arising from the existing publications of the two houses were removed, and all that was not objectionable was retained for the use of the united Church. The Descriptive Catalogue which was issued as soon as this work of revision was completed formed a duodecimo volume of four hundred and fifty pages, and contained the titles of two thousand two hundred and eighty separate publications. It presented to the Presbyterian body a noble list embracing a mass of Presbyterian, Calvinistic and evangelical literature of the highest value.

BOOK-STORE.

The Board of Publication, previous to the Reunion, kept on sale only its own publications, filling orders, however, for the books of other publishers. The Publication Committee, on the other hand, kept a well-selected assortment of theological, religious and Sabbath-school books issued by other houses. One of the first questions to engage the attention of the reorganized Board was which of these two policies it should adopt—whether other publications than its own should be sold in its book-store, or whether its sales should be strictly confined to its own issues. The result was an almost unanimous decision to keep, to a limited extent and under certain restrictions, the publications of other houses. In accordance with this decision, a large and commodious book-store was fitted up for its retail trade. Here the books found on its

own catalogue were presented in an attractive light to customers. The variety and value of the Board's publications were thus made more apparent to the public eye. In addition to these, a carefully-selected assortment of the issues of other houses was placed on its shelves. Bibles and Testaments, prose and poetic versions of the Psalms, commentaries on the Holy Scriptures, Sabbath-school books and requisites suitable for use by our schools, and other books of interest to the constituency of the Board, either devotional, practical, literary or theological, were kept in stock. The aim has been from the first to make the book-store a centre of attraction and of trade for our people, to furnish a full supply of religious literature and Sabbath-school requisites to our churches and schools, to keep on hand whatever is within the legitimate sphere of such a business, and to provide for the Presbyterian Church and community on the Board's own premises whatever may be needed in this direction.

DEPOSITORIES AND BRANCH HOUSES.

The Board soon after the Reunion, through its Business Committee, examined into various plans for increasing the sales to booksellers in different parts of the country, and especially for having a full assortment of the Board's publications in the hands of one bookseller in each of the principal cities within the bounds of our denomination. The Business Superintendent visited many of these business centres, conferred with prominent dealers, as well as with influential men of the Church, with a view to bringing all

our publications within easy reach both of the trade and of private purchasers in every portion of the Church. Such arrangements were early made in several of our larger cities. Subsequently, from time to time, the Board increased the number of these agencies and branch houses, and extended the same facilities to most of the business centres throughout our country and Canada. This policy was approved by the General Assembly. There are twenty-three of these branch houses or agencies now established.

The General Assembly of 1882 directed the Board "to establish a Depository at Chicago and one at St. Louis, each to be liberally supplied with all the publications of the Board and such religious literature as may be needed to meet the demands of a first-class book-store for these great centres." In 1884, in view of the peculiar necessities of the churches on the Pacific slope, the Board was recommended to establish a new Depository in the city of San Francisco.

In 1885 the Assembly recommended conferences between the Board and the Presbytery of New York for the purpose of establishing a first-class Depository in the city of New York.

In 1886 the Assembly took action with regard to the establishment of branch houses or representatives, as follows :

We believe that this is a question which addresses itself to the business sense of the Board, and we leave it there with the belief that such policy will be adopted as experience will show to be for the best interests of the Church.

The General Assembly calls the attention of the Board to the necessity of great care in the establishment of "branch houses" or "representatives," not multiplying these except when the necessity is apparent and the probabilities of advancing religious ends are such as to warrant the extension of the same, without militating against the interest of other important agencies organized under the direction of the General Assembly; and we recommend that, so far as consistent with a proper circulation of our literature, the business be so conducted that the profits thereof shall accrue to the benefit of the Board, rather than to the benefit of private individuals.

"THE PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY RECORD."

In accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly, *The Home and Foreign Record* and *The Presbyterian Monthly* were united under the title of *The Presbyterian Monthly Record*. This union was effected in the number for August, 1870. The consolidated magazine continued to be published as the official organ of the Assembly's Boards and Committees until 1887, when it was superseded by *The Church at Home and Abroad*. The control of its pages rested entirely with the several organizations represented. Though filled with important, and by no means uninteresting, matter pertaining to the policy and work of the Boards, it had but a limited circulation, and was never self-sustaining. It was sent gratuitously to all the ministers of the Church. The loss incurred by its publication was shared by the Boards in the ratio of the space occupied by each.

“PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL.”

The first reunited Assembly in 1870 recommended that the Board of Publication “consider what may be the best means of effecting some understanding as to the issue of Books of Psalmody, and report on the subject to the next Assembly.”

The report of the Board to the next Assembly recommended the appointment of a committee of seven, who should proceed to the preparation of a Book of Praise. The Committee were duly appointed. They were instructed to invite suggestions from all parts of the Church as to the general character and structure of the book, committing the same to some person whom they should select, and who would prepare the book in the light of these general views, subject to the final approval of the Committee before being reported to the Assembly.

The Committee proceeded to carry out these instructions as expeditiously as the nature of the work would allow. They reported to the Assembly of 1873, submitting a plan of the book and general table of contents, together with a list of the first lines of the psalms and hymns, and, in view of the exigences of the case, asked for authority to proceed with the compilation, and through the Board of Publication to have the Book of Praise stereotyped, published and furnished to the churches without further submission to the Assembly. The Committee were thus instructed, and under these instructions the *Hymnal* was compiled by the Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, D. D., under the supervision and with the approval of the Committee, and

was published. The Committee presented to the Assembly of 1875 their final report, which was accepted, their work approved, and the Committee discharged with thanks for the efficient manner in which they had performed their duty.

The book was received with very great favor, and was introduced into many of our churches. Numerous editions have been issued in a variety of forms, amounting altogether to four hundred and twelve thousand five hundred copies.

NEW "DIGEST."

The want of a Digest of the acts of the supreme judicatory of the Church was early felt. In 1818 the Assembly appointed a Committee to prepare such a work. The Committee reported to the next Assembly, and were authorized to complete the work on the plan reported, and to publish it at the expense of the Trustees of the Assembly. The *Digest* thus authorized was published in 1820. In 1850 the Board of Publication issued a *Digest* prepared by the Rev. Richard Webster. In 1856 the Board issued the *Digest* prepared by the Rev. Samuel J. Baird. A new and revised edition was issued in 1859.

In 1854 the Assembly (N. S.) took order, appointing a Committee to prepare and publish a new *Digest*, "if it can be done without expense to the Assembly." The *Digest* thus directed was prepared by Rev. William E. Moore, and, after delay, for want of funds, issued by the Presbyterian Publication Committee in 1861. It was accepted with commendation by the Assembly.

The necessity of a more complete work which should

combine the precedents of the Church in all its branches and bring them down to the latest date was felt at once upon the Reunion. The Board of Publication accordingly took action looking to this end. The plan of a new *Digest* was submitted to the Assembly of 1871, and approved by it. The Rev. William E. Moore was appointed to prepare the work, and a special Committee was appointed to examine and approve it before its publication. The Committee reported to the Assembly of 1873 the completion of the work by the compiler and its approval by the Committee, and it was issued early in 1874.

The adoption of the *Revised Book of Discipline* in 1884, with its amendments in 1885, and the lapse of twelve years since the publication of the *Digest*, made necessary a new edition, which was issued in 1886. This edition contains a complete presentation of the acts and deliverances of the Assembly on all questions down to the time of its publication.

CHANGE OF TREASURER.

In June, 1873, the venerable Winthrop Sargent, who had served the Board faithfully and efficiently for nearly twenty-two years as Superintendent of Colportage, and for ten years as Treasurer also, having reached the advanced age of eighty-two years, felt constrained to relinquish those offices, and retired with the esteem and affection of all who knew him. Mr. Sargent lived only a little more than a year after his retirement. The Board at its meeting September 22, 1874, made record of his death as follows:

This Board has heard with great sorrow and regret of the death of Winthrop Sargent, Esq., our late Treasurer. His long association with the Board, unswerving integrity, Christian character and faithful service for so long a period make his memory fragrant, and we desire to record our deep sense of the loss this Board has sustained by his decease.

Mr. Sargent was succeeded in the office of Treasurer and Superintendent of Colportage by Mr. Samuel D. Powel. Mr. Powel had filled the office of Treasurer of the Board of Home Missions, and before that for many years of the Board of Domestic Missions. He therefore brought to his new position an extended and valuable experience and a wide acquaintance with the men and affairs of the Presbyterian Church. Faithful in every trust confided to him, he remained in the service of the Board until his death, August 24, 1887.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

The Fund for the support of this part of the Board's work is derived mainly from the contributions of our churches and Sabbath-schools and the gifts and legacies of the benevolent among our people. Appropriations have also been made to it from time to time by the Business Department as the net profits of its sales allowed. Money given to this Fund is sacredly devoted to the benevolent work of the Board, and is used in paying the expenses of the Sabbath-school Department, the salaries and expenses of colporteurs and the cost of the books and tracts gratuitously distributed by them or granted by the Board's Missionary Committee.

In 1877 the residuary legatees of the late John C. Green of New York gave to the Trustees of the Board of Publication the sum of fifty thousand dollars, the principal to be kept intact and safely invested in productive securities, such as are authorized by the laws of Pennsylvania as proper and legal for the investment of trust funds, and the income therefrom to be applied to the distinctively benevolent and missionary work of the Board—provided, nevertheless, that the Board may appropriate and apply not exceeding one-third of the net income in any one year for the purpose of enabling it to publish and issue such works as it may determine upon and select, at lower prices or in a better and more attractive form than they could otherwise be issued; it being the intention that the sums so appropriated and applied shall actually reduce the selling prices of the works upon which they are expended from what they would otherwise be fixed at upon the ordinary basis for fixing prices in use from time to time by the Board. The conditions of the trust have, in every respect, been faithfully carried out, both in the investment of the principal and in the application of its income.

The Trustees of the Board also hold other trust funds to the amount of twelve thousand five hundred dollars, whose income is applied to the support of its benevolent and missionary work. In addition to these, various trust funds to the amount of about \$30,000 are held by the Trustees of the General Assembly, whose income, in whole or in part, is appropriated in the same manner.

COLPORTAGE WORK.

At the Reunion great importance was attached by the entire Church to the colportage work of the Board. The General Assembly of 1870 unanimously adopted the following recommendation of its Standing Committee on Publication :

Your Committee are deeply impressed with the colportage work conducted by the Board, and would strongly urge its extension as being the means best fitted to make known the truths of salvation to multitudes in our country, as to Roman Catholics and persons separated from the ordinary means of grace.

The Assembly also adopted the following minute :

Each Presbytery is directed to appoint one or more of its members a Presbyterial Publication Committee ; which Committee shall in that Presbytery supervise the work of securing an annual collection for this Board from each of its churches ; shall search out and recommend to the Board suitable persons to act as colporteurs ; shall correspond with the Board in reference to its work in that Presbytery ; and shall do whatever else may tend to promote the work and interests of the Board, and to secure a thorough distribution of the Board's publications within and throughout the bounds of the Presbytery.

Most of the Presbyteries obeyed this direction and appointed each a Presbyterial Publication Committee. To every Committee so appointed the Corresponding Secretary sent a communication explaining the colportage work and plans of the Board. In a considerable number of Presbyteries presbyterial colporteurs were employed according to these arrangements, which

in their newly modified form were received with universal favor. The aim of the Board was to have at least one well-qualified and active colporteur at work in each Presbytery, such colporteur to be selected and recommended to the Board by the Presbytery itself, or by its Publication Committee.

The General Assembly of 1871 gave emphatic approval of these plans by adopting the following recommendations of its Standing Committee on Publication:

Your Committee are convinced, from all the light which they have been able to obtain, that the colporteur system of distribution is essential to the efficiency of this Board, and that, instead of being diminished, it ought to be largely increased. It is unfair to judge of the business operations of a Board whose sales are confined to religious publications by the common laws of the book-trade. Other publishing-houses publish or keep on their shelves miscellaneous books of all kinds. They find buyers from all classes of people, whilst the religious house sells chiefly to religious people. The range of its operations is necessarily restricted; and if it be, as in the case of our Board, a denominational enterprise, its operations must be confined chiefly to its own denomination. This limits the range of its operation and the number of its customers, and it would be unreasonable, therefore, to expect it to compete upon mere commercial principles with houses who publish books on all sorts of subjects, both religious and secular. Nor is it reasonable to expect it to compete with those undenominational publishing societies which claim and receive the patronage of all evangelical Christians.

The press is a power in the earth. The Church cannot dispense with its mighty agency; and if the doctrine and

order of the Presbyterian Church are, as we believe them to be, the most primitive, apostolical and scriptural, they ought to be maintained and disseminated; and if they are to be promoted, the press is an indispensable agent in the work, and our Church cannot afford to dispense with it, nor to abate the measure of its efficiency. It is, in the judgment of your Committee, preposterously unwise to reduce our own Board to the condition of a mere commercial house with a limited capital, whilst the publishing societies which are restrained from publishing the distinctive doctrines of our system, and who get the patronage of all evangelical denominations, are sustained by large benefactions of the churches. It is to be remembered, also, that, whilst secular publishing-houses can go into trade-sales and dispose of much of their stock by exchanges for the publications of other houses, our Board cannot thus exchange, for it is not her mission to disseminate secular literature.

Your Committee is profoundly convinced that an effort ought to be made to enlarge the resources of this Board, and the colporteur and Sabbath-school work and its gratuitous distributions ought to be rapidly increased. Your Committee, therefore, submits the following additional resolutions for the consideration of the Assembly—viz.:

Resolved, 1. That the Board of Publication be recommended to prosecute with increased energy the work of distribution by an efficient and economical system of colportage under the direction of the several Presbyteries.

2. That the Board be authorized to supply libraries for each of our missions in the foreign field as fast as funds are available for that purpose.

3. That the Board be exhorted to employ in the work entrusted to their hands all the honorable and proper

business tact and energy which are used by other publishing-houses.

4. That the people of our churches be urged to increased liberality toward the Missionary Department of this Board, and to take up an annual collection for it, as directed by the past Assembly, so that the means of inaugurating the Sunday-school work and increasing colportage and donations to destitute pastors and feeble churches may be supplied.

Similar and equally emphatic approval of this branch of the Board's work was given by each successive Assembly during the first decade of the reunited Church. The Board endeavored, so far as the necessary means was given it, to carry out these oft-repeated instructions in the expansion of its colportage and missionary work.

It was made the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to conduct all correspondence having reference to the appointment of colporteurs, and nominate to the Missionary Committee those who furnished satisfactory testimonials as to their qualifications for the work. The Missionary Committee received and acted upon all applications to appoint colporteurs made through the Corresponding Secretary, and when appointed determined their field of labor and fixed their compensation. The Superintendent of Colportage conducted the correspondence with colporteurs, after their appointment, received and engrossed their reports in a book prepared for the purpose, kept accounts of their pecuniary relations to the Board, executed all orders from colporteurs and collected all sums due from them,

and reported the state of the work to the Missionary Committee at each meeting. District Superintendents were also appointed to take supervision of the work in their several fields, and to push it forward with vigor and economy. One of these District Superintendents was located at Chicago, another at St. Louis, another at Cleveland, Ohio, another at Cincinnati, and another at Syracuse, New York. Still later in the Board's history a District Superintendent, by express direction of the General Assembly, was placed in charge of the colportage and missionary work on the Pacific coast.

The General Assembly of 1881 appointed a Special Committee of seven—four ministers and three elders—“to consider and report to the next Assembly what changes and measures, if any, are needed in order to increase the work and the efficiency of the Missionary Department of the Board of Publication.” The Assembly of 1882, on the recommendation of this Special Committee, adopted the following action :

Resolved, 1. That the General Assembly instruct the Board of Publication to maintain a separation as complete as practicable between the Publishing and the Colportage Departments in their business affairs, so that the relation between the two in this respect shall be the same as between the Publishing Department and any other purchaser, the terms of sale to the Colportage Department to be as favorable as those offered to any other purchaser.

2. The Publishing Department is to employ all legitimate agencies which shall promote the sale of its publications, and not be required to assume, in whole or in part, the support of any office or agency which it does not feel justified in assuming because of its commercial value. It

is to keep in view the important object of furnishing its publications at the lowest possible cost, and all advantages which it may possess by virtue of the capital placed at its disposal are to bear fruit chiefly in the lower price, and consequent wider diffusion, of its publications.

3. The Board shall present to the General Assembly a yearly statement of the expenses of the Publishing Department, and also a statement of its profits, in such a manner that it shall be made to appear (1) whether any reduction in the price of its publications is practicable, and (2) what sum this department may yield year by year for Sabbath-school work and colportage or other missionary purposes.

4. That the work of colportage, including the selection and appointment of colporteurs, shall be under the exclusive supervision of the Corresponding Secretary and the appropriate Committee of the Board, who shall be allowed adequate clerical aid. No colporteur, however, shall be sent to labor within the bounds of any Presbytery unless first recommended by the Presbytery or its appropriate Committee.

5. In pursuance of this policy of giving greater unity of management to the work of colportage, the office of Superintendent of Missionary Work shall be abolished and its duties transferred to the Corresponding Secretary. District Superintendents also are not to be maintained by the Board, except where it judges that they are called for on business grounds, in which cases they are to be sustained by the Publishing Department.

6. The funds necessary for the maintenance of colportage are to be sought, as now, directly from the churches, as a benevolent gift. From these funds the Board shall provide for the entire salary of the Secretary of Sabbath-School Work, and so much of the salary of the Corre-

sponding Secretary as is not provided for by an express arrangement of the Publication Department, with their expenses; also for the salaries of the colporteurs, the grants of books, etc., which it shall allow, and the other expenses of the Missionary Department.

7. That in the instructions of the Missionary Department to the colporteurs the main emphasis is to be laid upon the work of religious visitation and the Sabbath-school work expected from among the spiritually *destitute*, and that the selling of books, while still continued so far as it can be usefully done, is to be in all cases subordinated to these more directly benevolent and religious labors.

8. That the Board be directed to invite correspondence through its Missionary Department with our pastors, and especially with our missionaries, to secure voluntary help in the wider diffusion of our literature, and that in pursuance of this policy it be directed to make grants of books and other publications with all possible liberality whenever satisfied that those making application for such grants will employ them wisely for the benefit of the religiously *destitute*, and will report to the Board the manner in which they are used.

The important changes here directed were all promptly made. In fact, most of them had been determined upon by the Board before the action of the Assembly, especially those directed in the fourth, fifth, seventh and eighth resolutions, excepting the part of the fifth resolution relating to the office of District Superintendent. The question as to whether or not it was expedient to continue that office had been considered, but it was decided that the Board "should not definitely act to determine a line of gen-

eral policy, but await action on the part of the General Assembly." As soon as the Assembly had acted upon the question, the Board abolished the office of District Superintendent, and the men who had held the office retired from the work of the Board with its thanks for the faithful and efficient services they had rendered during the years they had held to it that relation. The entire work of colportage, including the selection and appointment of colporteurs, was thus placed under the exclusive supervision of the Corresponding Secretary and the Missionary Committee of the Board.

During the seventeen years from the Reunion in 1870 to the reorganization of the Board in 1887 the average number of colporteurs in the field was 94, varying from year to year, the highest number employed being 158, in 1873, and the lowest 49, in 1883. The number of Synods and Presbyteries in which they labored also varied from year to year, the average number being, of Synods, 32, and of Presbyteries 85. The majority of them were employed in the West and North-west. Quietly and almost unnoticed by the busy world they passed from house to house and from village to village, most of them among the mountain-ranges, on the wide prairies or through the forests of our Western States, scattering everywhere the good seed of divine truth—a handful here, a handful there. In this laborious and self-denying work they distributed by sale 973,396 volumes, and by gift 868,563 volumes—a total of 1,841,959 volumes. They also gave away 81,376,698 pages of tracts and periodicals. Besides the distribution of so large an amount of our

religious and denominational literature, the records and reports of the Board abound with evidences of great spiritual good effected through their instrumentality in the conversion of souls and the edification and comfort of God's people. How much they accomplished in the organization of mission Sabbath-schools and by visitation and encouragement of schools already established in their respective fields of labor will be shown in future pages.

GRANTS BY THE MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

In addition to the books, tracts and periodicals distributed far and wide by the colporteurs on their respective fields, large numbers were from year to year granted by votes of the Missionary Committee. Numerous and earnest applications for such grants flowed in from all parts of our country and Canada, and also from various mission stations in Mexico, South Africa and Asia. To these applications the Committee responded as freely as the resources at its command allowed. Tracts and other publications in French, Spanish, Italian and German were furnished for the use of missionaries laboring among those speaking these languages. The wants of the freedmen and of the Indians were also remembered. Many a mission Sabbath-school and many a weak mission church thus received material aid and encouragement in their work among the poor and the destitute. The reports and records of the Board show that the net value of these grants amounted to nearly one hundred thousand dollars.

It was painfully felt, however, that the work actually accomplished annually bore no proportion to the demands of the country and the duty of the Church. The number of colporteurs had fallen from year to year from one hundred and fifty-eight in 1873 to forty-nine in 1883. The means for carrying on the work were meagre and wholly disproportioned to its magnitude and vital importance. At the same time, there were urgent and increasing demands for missionary work and gratuitous grants of the Board's publications. A legacy of ten thousand dollars left to the Missionary Fund by the late Hon. William E. Dodge, and other legacies to the amount of four thousand dollars, came into the treasury in 1884, when the Fund was entirely exhausted. This providential relief led to an expansion of the colportage work and a corresponding increase of the missionary grants in response to urgent appeals, and in the confident expectation that the incoming contributions would be sufficient to meet the increased demands upon the Fund. The report made to the Assembly of 1885 rejoiced in its mention of "a year of extraordinary and unequalled usefulness," of calls from the Presbyteries for the appointment of colporteurs gladly met by the Board, and of enlarged grants to Sabbath-schools, home missionaries, foreign missionaries and pastors.

The report was received by the Assembly with warm congratulation, and with the most unmistakable exhortations that the Board go forward in this good work, and that the churches heartily sustain it in its aggressive movements. It was resolved—

That the Assembly has learned with great pleasure of the enlargement made during the past year in the work of the Missionary Department of this Board through the increased number of colporteurs it has maintained upon the field, and especially in the more remote and destitute States and Territories between the Mississippi and the Pacific Ocean; also through the enlarged number and value of the grants it has made to the needy Sabbath-schools, home missionaries, teachers and others in every part of the Church, as well as in foreign lands.

That the Board is hereby encouraged and exhorted to continue the prosecution of its colportage work, and of making grants to the needy to the utmost extent it can feel to be wise and proper in view of the resources at its disposal. And, in order that these resources may be enlarged during the coming year, all our churches and Sabbath-schools are hereby recommended and urged to make at least one annual contribution to the Missionary Fund of the Board.

It also recommended that the sum of at least seventy-five thousand dollars should be contributed by the churches during the year for the prosecution of this important work.

Thus encouraged, the Board entered hopefully on the new year, prosecuting with vigor this much-needed enterprise for reaching the people with the truth. But as the year advanced, and the income of the Missionary Fund failed to equal its expenditures, caution became necessary; then new appointments of colporteurs were refused, and grants were limited to the more urgent cases, and finally the last measure was reluctantly and sadly reached of dismissing men already in the service.

The necessity was a most painful one, but it was one not to be avoided in the circumstances. The Board was compelled to continue this contraction of its missionary work, and finally to report to the Assembly of 1887 that the number of colporteurs had been reduced to seventeen, and that the balance against the Missionary Fund was \$24,935.49.

SABBATH-SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

One of the earliest acts of the reorganized Board was to take up the recommendation of the Assembly of 1870 with regard to the establishment of a department of Sabbath-schools. The whole subject was referred to its Missionary Committee for careful consideration. The result was the following Report from that Committee, drawn up by the Rev. Thomas Murphy, D. D., its Chairman, which was adopted with entire unanimity by the Board, and unanimously adopted by the Assembly of 1871 :

REPORT.

The General Assembly having recommended at its last meeting "that the Board of Publication, at as early a date as possible, consider the propriety of establishing a Department of Sabbath-schools, whose office it shall be to promote the number and efficiency of Sabbath-schools throughout the congregations of the Presbyterian Church," the Board would report that they have given the whole matter careful and earnest attention.

Within a few years the institution of the Sabbath-school has assumed such a form and grown to such a magnitude that probably but very few even of the most thoughtful Christians duly appreciate its unspeakable importance.

Being in the very midst of its developments, we do not so see its vast proportions that they leave upon our minds an adequate impression. If they were fairly grasped by our Church at this deeply momentous epoch of her history, there is probably no other subject that would call forth from her more earnest and thoughtful consideration. When it is considered that the religious training of the young lies at the very foundation of every other institution of the Church, and of all that is hopeful in her future prospects, how can we overestimate the importance of this subject? The fact to which we dare not close our eyes—that so much of that training at the present time is passing over to the Sabbath-school and the Church—imposes such a tremendous weight of responsibility that no amount of thought or work or money is too great to be bestowed on this subject. Then its proportions rise up into additional grandeur when we reflect that the Sabbath-school is the best-known agency for reaching the millions upon millions of children who have no religious training from parents or any others and saving them from godless lives with all their disastrous consequences. Then, too, the Sabbath-school is pre-eminent, as furnishing a plain and profitable field of Christian toil for every warm heart and willing hand.

Will it do for our Church in her organized form to neglect this agency which is springing up to such immense proportions within her and around her? Should she be satisfied until it is brought under her own control and all its influences secured in her vast enterprise of building up Christ's kingdom? Can our Church afford to do nothing in this matter, while others are moving forward in it, and that most successfully? Is it not now a time for us to begin, when by our blessed Reunion a broader field is opening before us, and a new strength is given us that if

rightly guided and sanctified could achieve almost anything? Is there not now a most exciting call for our Presbyterian Church to take her noble traditional stand in the forefront with respect to the religious training of the young?

The work which the Church evidently should undertake in this matter through its responsible organs presents itself in three branches.

The first branch should include everything pertaining to the books and all other literature that might be needed to give success to the work of Sabbath-schools. A great evil that is creeping into our schools, and a great danger that is threatening them, arises from the vast number of books unsuitable for Sabbath reading and objectionable in their character which are filling their libraries. This evil needs to be efficiently guarded against. Even if the Board of Publication were able with its own books fully to supply the wants of all of our schools, the schools would not be restricted in their selections to these publications. Many most excellent books are published by other societies and by private publishing-houses. From these our schools will still continue to select, as well as from our own publications. There ought, therefore, to be an agency for carefully reading Sabbath-school books collected from every source, and keeping a list (or the books themselves) of all that could be safely recommended to the schools. Under this branch of the subject should also come the providing of suitable helps for the whole Sabbath-school work. There should be Bible dictionaries from which everything that is distinctive in our grand system of doctrine and order would not be excluded. There should be suitable commentaries that could be recommended. There should be maps and guide-books and diagrams and roll-books, and everything else requisite in the Sabbath-school

work. Under this branch, also, should fall the preparation of periodicals, not only for children, but also for teachers. It should include, also, the furnishing of books of hymns and music which would be suitable to the worship of God and the sanctity of the Sabbath. And here, too, should be placed the responsibility of providing lessons and questions that could be used throughout the schools of the Church.

A second branch of this general subject should contemplate improvement in the standard of teaching, the purifying our schools of everything unworthy of the dignity of the cause and the thorough development of the great Sabbath-school idea. "What can be done to increase the piety, the zeal, the scriptural intelligence and the aptness to impart knowledge on the part of our teachers?" is the great question on which the true efficiency of our Sabbath-schools depends. The aim here should be to enlist the piety and talent of the Church in this cause, to develop practically the idea that the Sabbath-school is an integral part of the Church, to secure every real improvement in this work, to guard against mere novelties which may be injurious or inconsistent with the sacredness of Sabbath exercises, and to make constant progress in the art of enriching the minds of the young with the knowledge of God contained in the Bible and Catechism, and of drawing them to Christ. This all-important end could be approximated by the Sessions of our churches becoming officially and thoroughly identified with their Sabbath-schools, by establishing classes in which teachers, and those who might become such, could be more thoroughly trained in the Scriptures, and by each Presbytery, either through a colporteur or through one or more of its own members, appointed as a Permanent Committee for the purpose, holding frequent Sabbath-school meetings within its bounds. By this a deeper interest in the Sabbath-

school work could be excited and greater efficiency in teaching promoted.

For the highest efficiency and success, it will become advisable to have a General Superintendent of Sabbath-School Work to devote his whole energies to the promotion of its interests. He could be a medium of communication concerning all that would promote the welfare of the cause. Himself thoroughly abreast of the times in all the healthful improvements in the work of Sabbath-schools, he could circulate the knowledge of them through all our churches, and by visiting Synods, Presbyteries and congregations, and assisting at Sabbath-school meetings in connection with these bodies, he could impart information, stimulate interest and excite liberality that would be felt throughout all our bounds.

A third branch of this work of the Church should be the planting of new Sabbath-schools in destitute localities. It is surely high time for the Presbyterian Church to move in this matter, as her sister-churches are already moving. We are now, as a body, strong enough to conduct this distinct and most important enterprise. It is believed that our ministers and people are ready and anxious to enter upon it with all vigor. Certainly, other denominations are looking for us to be amongst the foremost in this enterprise, which must be productive of vast results for good. We might expect every Sabbath-school organized through our instrumentality to become a centre of salutary influences, and many to lead to the organization of churches.

To effect this end, very little addition to our present operations would be needed. In appointing colporteurs we have but to request the Presbyteries to nominate men who would be capable of acting as Sabbath-school missionaries, and to authorize them to seek out proper locali-

ties and there plant Sabbath-schools. This, with larger contributions from the churches, to meet the increased expense of such agencies, is all that would be needed.

Such, then, is an outline of the Sabbath-school work to which, as a Church, we seem to be imperatively called. This is the Church's work emphatically, if there is any work for her to do. The Sabbath-school is not a thing distinct from the Church—it is productive of evil to regard it as such—but it is the Church working in the instruction of its own children, its largest and most hopeful element, and in the evangelization of the children of those not connected with the Church. Whatever the Church does here should be done in her organized capacity. She is responsible: she is a divinely-appointed teacher.

In carrying forward this work there should be no assuming of the work of individual churches or Presbyteries, no taking away from them of the responsibility resting upon them. That would be paralyzing and destructive of the best interests of the cause. All that is done should be done through Sessions and Presbyteries, which must ever be the immediate and responsible agents of the Church's work.

It is not believed that any new Board or Department for this object would be acceptable to the Church, or that any is necessary to accomplish the end aimed at. The feeling in the Church is manifestly adverse to the increase of distinct agencies. Besides, no new Department could have the facilities for carrying on this work which are already possessed by the Board of Publication and in actual operation. A very large amount of the work of a Sabbath-school Department must be carried on through publications of various kinds; and this is the prominent work of the Board. The Board of Publication can furnish libraries of its own publications, and also of approved

books from other publishers; it can prepare helps of every kind for the study of the Bible; it can issue periodicals for scholars and teachers; it can circulate intelligence concerning the interests of Sabbath-schools; and it can so enlarge the duties of its colporteurs that they may also act as Sabbath-school missionaries with but little departure from its present arrangements.

After a careful and thorough investigation of the whole subject, we would therefore recommend the following for the adoption of the General Assembly, with the explanations already given in this report—viz.:

1st. That the Board of Publication be instructed so to enlarge its arrangements as to make the Sabbath-school work a prominent and organic part of its operations.*

2d. That the Board, so enlarged in the sphere of its operations, keep before it these three branches of Sabbath-school work:

A. To furnish a complete literature for Sabbath-schools, consisting of its own and other well-selected books for libraries, helps of all kinds for the study of the Scriptures and Catechism, periodicals for teachers and scholars, and all other apparatus fitted to give efficiency to the work of teaching.

B. To establish such agencies as it may deem suitable for elevating the standard of teaching and more thoroughly developing the great idea of Sabbath-schools—that of imparting the knowledge of God to the young and drawing them to the salvation of Christ.

C. In appointing colporteurs, as far as possible, to select such persons as may also be suitable for Sabbath-school

*Amended by the General Assembly so as to read as follows: "1st. That the Board of Publication be instructed so to enlarge its arrangements as to make the Sabbath-school work a prominent and organic part of its operations, and that it is exceedingly desirable that the entire congregations in our churches old and young, be permanently connected with the Sabbath-school, either as scholars or teachers."

missionaries, and instruct them to establish Sabbath-schools in destitute localities, under the supervision of the Presbyteries.

3d. That the churches be urged to contribute more largely to the Missionary Fund of this Board to meet the increased expense which the working of this branch of its operations will demand.

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SABBATH-SCHOOL
WORK.

These recommendations of the Board with regard to the organization of a Sabbath-school Department having been approved by the Assembly, the Board at its annual meeting, June 13, 1871—

Resolved, That the Missionary Committee be instructed to carry into effect the Plan thus adopted, excepting those portions of the work naturally belonging to the Publishing Committee, and that it be authorized to secure the services of a suitable man for the post of General Superintendent or Sabbath-school Work, at a proper salary, subject to confirmation by the Board.

After a prolonged and earnest search for a person well qualified for the service required, the Board elected Mr. J. Bennet Tyler to the office of General Superintendent of Sabbath-School Work. Mr. Tyler had been for some time the District Secretary of the American Sunday-School Union for the city and State of New York, where his labors had been attended with marked acceptance and success. He accepted the position offered to him, and entered upon the performance of his new duties January 1, 1872.

Mr. Tyler was instructed by the Missionary Committee, under whose direction the Board had placed his work, "to visit as generally as possible our Synods, Presbyteries and congregations, and assist at Sabbath-school meetings in connection with these bodies, considering this the most prominent and vital part of his work." He was also directed to send to the Missionary Committee, "through the Corresponding Secretary, at each monthly meeting, a brief written report of his work and progress during the preceding month."

It will be observed that the duties required of Mr. Tyler were to a very great extent *field duties*. During the five years which he gave to the Board's Sabbath-school work he labored with great energy and diligence, and with encouraging success. In carrying out the instructions of the Board he traveled extensively through every part of our Church territory, conducted institutes and normal classes for teachers, attended meetings and conventions, addressed Presbyteries and Synods, and endeavored to enlist attention and interest touching the objects and work to be accomplished. It was deemed important to secure for this department of the Board's work a more pronounced ecclesiastical recognition; to promote, as far as practicable, a higher and truer conception of the possibilities of good inherent in the proper religious training of the children; to enlist Presbyteries and Synods more fully in the discussion of topics pertaining to the Sabbath-school; to hold institutes and Sabbath-school meetings within our own lines; in a word, to develop the great wealth of talent and culture within

our bounds, and as widely as possible. For this purpose the Superintendent corresponded by circulars and personal letters with committees of Presbyteries and Synods, attended and conducted Synodical and Presbyterial Institutes and meetings, as extensively as his time and strength would allow. The great aim in these labors was to secure, as far as practicable, unity of action over the whole field of Sabbath-school interests; to bring our schools into closer and more intimate relations to the Church and the pastor; to promote more thorough and systematic Bible and Catechetical study and instruction, and to secure denominational unity and co-operation.

At the outset little was known with regard to the number and work of our schools. It seemed important to reach these widely-scattered schools. Blanks were accordingly sent early in 1872 to all our pastors throughout the country asking for detailed statistics of our schools. Efforts were thus made to obtain the names of superintendents, with the number of schools, of teachers and of scholars, and the facts in full.

The General Assembly of 1872 gave its hearty approval of these plans and labors, and voted unanimously—

That the General Superintendent of Sabbath-school Work should receive the cordial co-operation of the Synods, Presbyteries, pastors, superintendents and all workers and friends of the Sabbath-school in executing the plans of the Board.

That every Presbytery take measures at its Spring meeting to gather and transmit to the General Superin-

tendent of Sabbath-school Work the detailed statistics for the year of the schools within its bounds.

This attempt to obtain full and reliable statistics, we are compelled to say, was for the time only partially successful, notwithstanding the approval and recommendation of the Assembly and the earnest efforts of the Superintendent. It remained for later and more persistent effort to secure the end sought. Still, this preliminary work was not in vain.

SABBATH-SCHOOL LITERATURE.

The first of the three branches of Sabbath-school work which the Board on its own recommendation was directed to keep before it was—

A. To furnish a complete literature for Sabbath-schools, consisting of its own and other well-selected books for libraries, helps of all kinds for the study of the Scriptures and Catechism, periodicals for teachers and scholars, and all other apparatus fitted to give efficiency to the work of teaching.

Very much had been done in the direction here indicated by the separate publication-houses before the Reunion. The Catalogue of the consolidated Board contained the names of about six hundred works admirably adapted for use in the Sabbath-school library. From year to year many volumes of a similar character were added to the list. Able and experienced writers were called into the service of the Board, and gave to the Church a great variety of interesting works. Year after year the Assembly has carefully noted the Board's publications for use in Sabbath-

schools, and commended them, and year after year it has encouraged the Board to go forward and make further additions to its Sabbath-school library of the same kind. Presbyteries and Synods, following the example of the General Assembly, have urged the churches within their bounds to furnish their Sabbath-school libraries with the books of the Board in preference to all others and before going elsewhere for a supply. Successive Assemblies have repeated and emphasized the utterance of the Assembly of 1877 :

A Church whose just claim it has always been that she has a learned and godly ministry, an intelligent and knowledge-loving membership equal to any in the world, and an eldership worthy to represent such a people and share the labors of the ministry, cannot afford to ignore or disparage a literature like this, produced by her own eminent authors.

* * * * *

The time has come when our whole Church, like other great denominations in the land, should give to our literature that loyal attachment and preference which it merits, and which hitherto has been given only in part.

In addition to its own issues, to which, of course, the first place and the chief prominence is given, a carefully-selected assortment of the publications of other houses is constantly kept in stock. Everything may here be procured that our Sabbath-school workers need in the prosecution of their work. Libraries, maps, blackboards, officers' minute- and record-books, class-books, and all other facilities for the management of the school may be had in great variety.

WESTMINSTER LESSON HELPS.

It is a strange fact that until the Reunion our Sabbath-schools were compelled to seek Lesson Helps, as well as other requisites, from outside agencies. As a consequence, these very important educational appliances were obtained from the most diverse sources—from voluntary societies, private publishing-houses, and not a few from denominational houses other than our own. Whilst many of these were excellent of their kind, they failed to meet the wants of our Church in the important work of educating her young people for her own communion. This state of things was anomalous and every way undesirable. The evils were manifold. The effect on the schools was the opposite of unity and denominational co-operation. The tendency was directly toward disintegration—to the promotion of party and sectional feeling. The Sabbath-school Department from the beginning sought steadily and earnestly to bring our schools into communion and sympathy with one another and with the plans and purposes of the Church—to create a common bond of union among the thousands of teachers who comprise so largely the active and efficient workers in our churches, and the half million of scholars who are so soon, for better or worse, to take their place. A community of literature, the use of the same helps and the singing of the same songs were believed to have a powerful influence in this direction.

In carrying out the instructions of the Assembly, and in accord with a wish widely felt, and often uttered, the Board in 1871 entered upon the issue of a series

of Lesson Helps for Sabbath-school use. The work of preparing these Helps was entrusted to the Rev. Henry C. McCook, D. D., whose large experience and enlightened enthusiasm in the cause gave peculiar fitness for the work. To him belongs the honor of giving to these Helps the appropriate name of *Westminster*—a name now familiar to all the Sabbath-school workers of our Church. The plan marked out by Dr. McCook and adopted by the Board embraced a full curriculum of Bible study extending through eight years, and giving lessons on both the Old and the New Testaments. Four series, each covering a period of six months, were issued. Series No. 1 and No. 2 were on "The Last Year of our Lord's Ministry;" Series No. 3 and No. 4 were on "The Last Week of Christ's Ministry."

"The Westminster Sabbath-School Lessons" met with immediate favor. The "Teachers' Papers" contained critical expository notes, together with questions, practical thoughts and suggestive hints of great value to teachers in preparation for their class-work. The "Scholars' Papers" were in like manner adjusted to the wants of the scholars in our Presbyterian Sabbath-schools. The "Teachers' Papers" of 1871 and 1872 were also published in two bound volumes, with the title *The Teacher's Commentary*. These volumes form a practical commentary of great value upon that portion of the life and teachings of Christ commonly assigned to the last year of our Lord's ministry.

A series of "Lessons on the Early Ministry of Jesus" had been prepared and stereotyped in part. This, had it been issued, would have made, with the four series

previously published, a complete study of the life of Christ. But after full deliberation it was resolved to set aside the plan of study adopted by the Board, and to take up in its place the course known as the *International Series*, which was begun with January, 1873. This was in accordance with the earnest convictions and urgent request of Dr. McCook himself. The Board at first was unwilling to make the change, but finally entered upon the International Series; and thenceforward we have had the pleasure of walking in harmonious unity with other branches of the Church catholic, whilst giving to our youth teachings in accordance with our own Standards.

The plans of the Board contemplated the preparation and issue of suitable and sufficient helps for both teachers and scholars. In the execution of these plans it called to its aid a number of the most prominent and learned men in the Church, among whom we may name the Rev. Drs. Jacobus, Nicolls, Duryea, Herrick Johnson and A. A. Hodge. The Westminster Lesson Leaf was begun in 1873. The first Westminster Question-Book was issued for the year 1875, and the Westminster Quarterly, a help for older and more advanced scholars, in 1880. The Westminster Primary Leaf and Quarterly and a German Leaf complete the list. The extended circulation of most of these Helps for Teachers and Scholars, now far exceeding the most sanguine expectations of the Board, clearly show that they have met a felt want, and that they commend themselves to the active Sabbath-school workers of our Church.

THE SHORTER CATECHISM.

The Shorter Catechism also holds a prominent place in the Sabbath-school Helps of the Board. In the eighteen years that have elapsed since the Reunion the Board has issued, in its separate form alone, no less than 2,484,000 copies, not including those in six other languages than the English. In addition to this, it has been sent forth in many other forms and connections. The Westminster Question-Book, Quarterly and Lesson Leaf, with their immense circulation, carry at least one question and answer in consecutive order with every Sabbath's lesson, illustrating it, and illustrated by it. Beyond question, the teachings of the Catechism are thus brought home to a larger number of the children and youth of our Church than at any previous time in its history. It is still a living power, and it will continue to be increasingly so, so long as the Lesson Helps furnished by the Board are loyally used and faithfully taught in our families and schools. Of the *Catechism for Young Children*, an Introduction to the Shorter Catechism, the Board has issued, since 1871, 2,720,000 copies.

Carefully-collected statistics show that these Helps are now used in nearly eighty per cent. of our Sabbath-schools. Why should they not find a place in all?

PERIODICALS.

To furnish periodicals for teachers and scholars was also made by the Assembly of 1871 a part of the Board's Sabbath-school work. From year to year increased attention has been given to such publications.

The "periodical" is, at this day, an enormous power for good or for evil. If less heavy in its impact than the book, it outdoes it in the multiplicity of its blows. Where books can be circulated by the hundred or thousand, periodicals can be sent forth by tens and hundreds of thousands. And this relative superiority in the influence of the periodical is rapidly increasing. The Board has not been unmindful of the times. It has constantly aimed at the enlargement of its ability to reach and to educate our children and youth through this agency. In this aim it has been greatly assisted by the growing efficiency of its Sabbath-school work.

"THE SABBATH-SCHOOL VISITOR."

This was the only illustrated Sabbath-school paper published by the Board before the Reunion. It is still fresh and full of the sprightly life of youth—a welcome visitor in many thousands of homes. For some years it was issued monthly, then twice a month; and in 1877 it was made a weekly paper. A change was again made in 1883 to meet the demand of many churches of small means for a paper with all the excellences of the *Visitor*, but at a smaller cost than even its low price. Since that date the *Visitor* has been published on the first and third weeks of each month, and another paper,

"THE MORNING STAR,"

has taken the place of the *Visitor* for the second and fourth weeks of each month. This paper is in every

respect equal to the *Visitor*, but of one-half its size, yet with more than one-half the amount of reading. It is published at an extremely low price, so as to put it within the reach of all.

“THE PRESBYTERIAN AT WORK.”

With January, 1873, the Board began the publication of a new periodical, *The Presbyterian at Work*. The rapidly-growing interest in the Board's Sabbath-school Department, the entrance upon more specific efforts for Sabbath-school improvement, elevation and extension, the labors of a Superintendent of this branch of church work, the systematic shape taken by Sabbath-school Bible study,—all combined to demand a channel through which this current of interest, study, labor and thought might flow out to the people of the Presbyterian Church. Whilst meeting this demand, it was deemed wise to give our people a paper containing also hints, suggestions and instructions upon other forms of lay activity.

The warm reception of this paper proved that in its publication the Board did not misunderstand the needs or the wishes of its constituents. At the end of six months, with July, 1873, its size was enlarged by the addition to it of the Westminster Teachers' Papers (which had previously been published in pamphlet form), without any increase in price. This change brought with it an immediate influx of new subscribers. To our Sabbath-school teachers and workers it supplied just the assistance they needed in preparing for their labors in the Sabbath-school, and the stim-

ulus so important to all who are engaged in good deeds for their fellow-men. With January, 1876, its form was changed to a quarto of sixteen pages, in compliance with the request of many of its friends. From the beginning its largest constituency was found among the teachers of our Sabbath-schools.

“THE WESTMINSTER TEACHER.”

With the beginning of 1879, *The Presbyterian at Work* was changed in form, contents and title, and became *The Westminster Teacher*. It took the octavo form, as more convenient for use and preservation. Leaving more general topics to the weekly religious press, it became specifically a helper to the officers, teachers and advanced pupils of our Sabbath-schools. This change of form and plan met with unqualified approval, and led to considerable additions to its subscription-list. It is now published in octavo form, forty pages monthly. It contains from month to month full and varied expositions of the International Bible Lessons, with other valuable editorial and contributed articles. Commendatory notices of it have been received from all parts of the world, many of them from pastors and workers of other denominations. Its value as a Sabbath-school help cannot be overestimated. To Sabbath-school teachers and scholars of our own denomination it gives aid not elsewhere attainable, and to them it is indispensable.

“THE SUNBEAM.”

With January, 1875, the Board entered upon the

publication of a paper for the *very little people*, especially those in the Infant Schools and Primary Classes. With lively illustrations, tinted paper, large type and easy reading, the *Sunbeam* offered itself to the young folks. It immediately met so hearty a welcome as to prove that it had a mission to fulfill. In the first month of its publication it was an assured success. For the first year four numbers were furnished monthly. With the second year it was made a weekly paper. It also serves as a primary lesson leaf on the International Series. From year to year it has continued to shine on an increasing army of young admirers.

“FORWARD.”

With January, 1882, the Board began the publication of *Forward*, an illustrated monthly paper, sixteen pages quarto, to meet the wants of that class of our young people who have outgrown the “children’s papers,” and who demand something more mature. Since 1885 it has been published twice each month. It is made attractive by pictorial illustrations, whilst its aim is to furnish articles of an instructive and elevating character, and yet to avoid being dull and heavy. The name of the paper is suggestive and fitly embodies its aims—to lead its readers on to better things, to inspire and help them upward and forward. It has steadily but not rapidly grown in popular favor, and we trust will soon attain the extended circulation to which its real merits entitle it.

The value of the work of the Board in the publica-

tion of these periodicals can never be estimated. So many bright, clear, inspiring pages bearing holy, helpful thoughts, sent out every week by thousands into so many homes, cannot fail to perform a ministry of incalculable worth. The influence of all these printed pages in the training of the children and youth of the land cannot but be of the most beneficent and lasting character. Their constantly-increasing circulation shows that the Church has a proper appreciation of their excellence.

EDITORIAL ASSISTANCE.

The great expansion of the Board's work during the first decade after the Reunion, especially in the increase of the number of illustrated Sabbath-school papers and lesson helps, laid a largely-increased amount of labor and responsibility upon the Editorial Secretary. The General Assembly of 1880, after speaking with approval of the labors of the Board and of the fidelity of its members, said :

These facts sufficiently attest the fidelity of the brethren who compose the Board, and the conclusion which their actions compel is confirmed by the "Attendance Roll" that has been placed in the hands of your Committee. Most of them, as ascertained from this, have been present at nearly every meeting held during during the past twelve months. In the review of their counsels and plans we find much to commend and nothing to condemn. It is obvious, however, that the increase which calls forth our gratitude to God has brought with it large increase of labor for the Editor of our periodicals, and, as this labor is becoming heavy for him to bear alone, your Committee recommend

that the Board be instructed to provide a suitable assistant to share with him the duties he has so well discharged and the responsibilities he has faithfully met.

In accordance with these instructions, the Board, after diligent inquiry, made choice of the Rev. J. R. Miller, then pastor of the Broadway Presbyterian Church of Rock Island, Ill., and appointed him Assistant to the Editorial Secretary. This position was accepted by Mr. Miller, and he entered upon its duties in July, 1880. The Board and the Church were united in the judgment that Mr. Miller possessed uncommon adaptation to the work, and his untiring labors not only relieved the overburdened Editorial Secretary, but also added largely to the value and usefulness of the publications of the Board.

NORMAL-CLASS INSTRUCTION.

A second branch of Sabbath-school work which the Board at the Reunion was directed to make a prominent and organic part of its operations was—

B. To establish such agencies as it may deem suitable for elevating the standard of teaching, and more thoroughly developing the great idea of Sabbath-schools—that of imparting the knowledge of God to the young and drawing them to the salvation of Christ.

The appointment of a General Superintendent of Sabbath-school Work had specific reference to this branch of labor. In the discharge of the duties of this office Mr. Tyler labored with faithfulness and industry. During each of the five years that he was in the service of the Board he traveled from ten to

twelve thousand miles, visited Presbyteries and Synods, conducted Synodical and Presbyterian Institutes, and sought to secure a closer unity of the schools with the Church and with one another. Time and labor were also given to the education and training of teachers and the attainment of a higher and better grade of teaching by the formation of Normal Classes in towns and cities, and of Training Classes in individual churches. Besides these laborious field-duties, a part of his time was devoted to office work in the preparation of the *Westminster Lesson Leaf*, of contributions to the *Presbyterian at Work*, and, in connection with other contributors, in the preparation of the Normal-Class Book *Preparing to Teach*, a work of great value, which ought to be in the hands of every Sabbath-school teacher.

SABBATH-SCHOOL MISSION WORK.

A third branch of Sabbath-school Work embraced in the plan of the Board adopted by the Assembly of 1871 was—

C. In appointing colporteurs, as far as possible to select such persons as may also be suitable for Sabbath-school missionaries, and instruct them to establish Sabbath-schools in destitute localities, under the supervision of the Presbyteries.

The Board was not unmindful of this direction of the Assembly. In carrying it out it sought to obtain the co-operation of all the Presbyteries. It urged upon them the appointment of Publication Committees, according to the direction of the Assembly of 1870,

and the enlargement of their functions so as to comprehend all duties having reference to Sabbath-school Work within their respective bounds. It especially requested them, in recommending persons for appointment as colporteurs, to have due reference to their qualifications for Sabbath-school mission work. It incorporated the following among the "Instructions" given to all its colporteurs :

Endeavor earnestly to visit every Presbyterian Sabbath-school within your fields of labor, and acquaint yourself, so far as you can, with the Superintendent, teachers and other active friends of the school.

Be continually on the lookout for destitute localities where Sabbath-schools may be established; and when they are found, you are to spare no pains, under the supervision of the Presbytery or its Publication Committee, to effect an organization and start the school with the best possible arrangements for permanent success and usefulness.

Report quarterly to the Superintendent of Colportage the number of Sabbath-schools you visit and the number you have established in destitute localities.

This beginning of Sabbath-school Mission Work was made in 1872, and it was hoped that from year to year it would become an increasingly important and useful part of the colporteur's work, fraught with blessings to the youth of our land and the Church of God. The new items with regard to Sabbath-schools were first reported to the Assembly of 1874. The Reports of the thirteen years ending with the reorganization of the Board in 1887 give the following results :

Visits to Sabbath schools.....	19,775
New Sabbath-schools organized.....	1,561

The Sabbath-schools thus visited and organized were very many of them aided by grants of books, lesson helps and other requisites, according to their needs, and as liberally as the missionary resources of the Board would allow.

The Assembly of 1875 bore commendatory testimony to the value of this branch of the Board's work :

The Sabbath-school Work of the Board has been conducted with great energy and prosperity, has greatly enlarged the sphere of usefulness of the Board, and has established itself as one of the wisest and most efficient of the late missionary and benevolent agencies of the Church.

Similar testimony was given by the General Assembly of 1876.

SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK REMODELED.

But, whilst the Assembly thus repeatedly expressed its hearty approval of the work already done, there was at the same time a growing conviction that this agency had not attained the efficiency that the importance and urgency of the work demanded. The Assembly of 1876, therefore, besides taking the action just referred to, instructed the Board "to inquire into the management of the Sabbath-school Department, with a view to its greater efficiency, and to make such changes as may in their judgment best secure this most desirable object."

Failing health compelled Mr. Tyler in September, 1876, to ask a release from the service of the Board, and his resignation was accordingly accepted, to take effect March 31, 1877. In his position as Superin-

tendent of Sabbath-school Work Mr. Tyler rendered important service, not only to the Presbyterian Church, but to the cause of Bible study and Sabbath-school efficiency at large. The Board, in accepting his resignation, unanimously expressed "its sense of the zeal, industry, energy and fidelity with which he discharged the difficult duties attached to his office."

The Board referred the instructions of the Assembly to its Missionary Committee, which had the supervision of the Sabbath-school Department, excepting those portions of the work naturally belonging to the Publication Committee. The Committee gave careful and protracted consideration to the whole subject, examined the working of similar departments in other denominations, and patiently studied the peculiarities of our own Church as they might furnish facilities for the development of Sabbath-school Work or demand its earnest prosecution. And in view of the light thus obtained the Board remodeled and defined the whole department, and especially the duties of the Superintendent of Sabbath-school Work, so as to make their influence more widely felt throughout the Church. This action of the Board was reported to the General Assembly of 1877, and received its approval.

Under the plan thus remodeled and defined Sabbath-school Work remained, as it had hitherto been, an integral part of the Missionary Department of the Board, under the direction of the Missionary Committee, excepting those portions of the work naturally belonging to the Publishing Committee. The instructions to colporteurs with regard to this portion of their

duties were repeated and emphasized. They were directed, as they went from one neighborhood to another, to visit, encourage and aid Sabbath-schools, especially those that were poor or feeble or imperfectly organized, and to supply them with the library-books, Sabbath-school lessons and periodicals published by the Board. They were also instructed to gather, organize and help new Sabbath-schools in destitute and needy localities where the children and youth were growing up without any suitable provision for their religious instruction. They were required to report as to their diligence in the discharge of these duties and the results of their labors to the Superintendent of Colportage, or Missionary Work, who, under the Missionary Committee and the Corresponding Secretary, had oversight of all their work.

A series of rules was formulated for the direction of the General Superintendent in his work. His duties were defined as follows :

1. He shall report to the Missionary Committee at its monthly stated meetings, as far as may be practicable, and shall consult with it in reference to his various plans for developing the work; he shall also from time to time report to the Board.

2. It shall be his duty thoroughly to acquaint himself with the whole subject, and to devise improved methods of Sabbath-school work for the use of the Presbyterian Church.

3. With the approval and by the co-operation of Synods and Presbyteries he shall work out so much organization of the Sabbath-schools of our Church as may be needed to establish local, Presbyterial and Synodical conventions of

teachers, to be held at stated intervals, and as may enable him to prepare annually a statistical exhibit of our Sabbath-schools.

4. As far as practicable, he shall attend the General Assembly, Synods and Presbyteries, and present the interests of the Sabbath-school cause. He shall also furnish information in regard to the organization of Sabbath-School Conventions, and, when time will allow, either conduct them or assist in them, as may be desired.

5. He shall visit churches and Sabbath-schools, and, when the way is open, occupy pulpits, presenting the interests and wants of the cause.

6. In each of our Theological Seminaries, when the professors shall approve and furnish the opportunity, he shall from time to time deliver lectures on the importance of the Sabbath-school, its sphere of work in our Church, its proper objects, the wisest modes of conducting it, the pastor's personal work in it, and the subject of preaching to children.

7. He shall prepare yearly an annual of Sabbath-school work, containing matured counsels on the subject, intelligence concerning the progress of the work, and whatever else may tend to increase interest in it among our churches; also, as far as practicable, a statistical table of all our schools, with the number of officers, teachers and scholars in each.

8. It shall be his duty, in all his addresses, discourses and public and private conferences, to keep it before him as a distinct aim to stimulate liberality, especially that of Sabbath-schools toward the Board's Missionary Fund, to have collections of the churches and Sabbath-schools turned into its treasury, and to describe the Board's publications and urge their use in preference to others.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.

Great care was taken in filling the vacant office of General Superintendent. After extensive correspondence and consultation, the Board in January, 1878, unanimously elected the Rev. James A. Worden, then pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Steubenville, Ohio. Mr. Worden accepted the office, and entered upon its duties April 1, 1878. He brought to the work much experience in Sabbath-school affairs, and his election gave great satisfaction to the Church, especially to those who had taken an active part in Sabbath-school work. The field and plan of work, as remodeled and defined by the Board, received his cordial approval as being in his opinion eminently wise and practicable.

In carrying out the clearly-defined plan of the Board in relation to his office, the Superintendent from the beginning labored with zeal and industry. During the first year he attended the International Sabbath-School Convention at Atlanta, Georgia, and addressed it on *The True Basis of Sabbath-School Work*; attended the General Assembly at Pittsburgh, Pa., and took part in a large and interesting Sabbath-school meeting held by its appointment; represented the Church and the Board on the International Lesson Committee, at which the general plan of lessons of the International Series for the next seven years was decided; visited and held Sabbath-school meetings, chiefly on the Sabbath, in more than sixty cities and villages in ten different States; took part in large Sabbath-school Assemblies at Round Lake and Chau-

tauqua; presided over the Sabbath-school Assembly of the North-west at Clear Lake, Iowa; attended the meetings of eight of our Synods and addressed them upon the Sabbath-school Work of the Board; and organized and instructed Normal Classes in several places for the preparation of teachers.

We have given this outline of the labors of the Superintendent during the first year of his official connection with the Board somewhat in detail, inasmuch as it is a fair exhibit of the diligence and energy with which he prosecuted his work during each succeeding year until the reorganization of the Board in 1887. The Assembly of 1880 bore decided testimony to his diligence, which later Assemblies in substance repeated.

SECRETARY OF SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.

By the action of the General Assembly of 1880, the General Superintendent was appointed *Secretary of Sabbath-School Work*. This alteration in the title and standing of the executive officer necessitated certain modifications of the work, which were accordingly made. The General Assembly of 1881 directed the appointment of a permanent committee of the Board to consult with the Secretary and aid him in the performance of his duties. These duties were precisely the same as had been performed by the General Superintendent, and the same methods were pursued in elevating, systematizing and improving the work throughout the churches. To these methods and labors the Assembly gave its hearty approval.

In the Report to the General Assembly of 1881 the principles and plans of the Board were given at length. These, as there set forth, were—

1. More closely to identify the Sabbath-school with the Church.

2. Practically to elevate the standard of Bible teaching.

3. To secure thorough reports from all our Sabbath-schools.

4. To prevent the Sabbath-school from becoming a substitute for parental training.

5. To prevent the Sabbath-school from becoming a substitute for the preaching service of the Church.

6. To bring all our Sabbath-schools to the position that Presbyterian mission work is best performed by Presbyterian agencies, and that such agencies, in preference to others, should receive the benevolent contributions of Presbyterian Sabbath-schools.

7. To subordinate all machinery, methods and expedients to the spiritual life and work of our Sabbath-schools.

A review of the work from that time onward until the reorganization of the Board in 1887 will show how steadily these plans and principles were kept in view and what advance was made in practically carrying them out.

IDENTITY OF SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

From year to year there has been a steady progress throughout the Church in the recognition of the principle that the Sabbath-school is in fact a Church service, and that it should be one with the Church in the persons composing it. There has been decided advance in the recognition of the true principle of the

government of the Sabbath-school. The instances are becoming rare where the mistaken endeavor is made to conduct the Sabbath-school independently of Church control. Nearly all our schools gladly submit to the authoritative supervision of their Sessions.

There has also been advance in Presbyterian Sabbath-School Work. Most of the Presbyteries have Standing Committees on this work. Many of them have organized their officers and teachers into Presbyterian Sabbath-School Associations. These Associations and Committees generally hold conventions and institutes for the instruction of their Bible teachers. These faithful officers and teachers are made to feel the sympathy and help of the Presbyteries. The work in the Synods has also grown in the same proportion as in the Presbyteries. This advance in the recognition of the identity of the Sabbath-school and the Church, and in the co-operation and sympathy of the Church judicatories with our Sabbath-school workers, has been in large measure the result of the labors of this Department, which has kept this principle steadily in view.

STATISTICS.

The General Assembly of 1878, repeating the action of several former Assemblies, recommended a thorough collection of Sabbath-school statistics. An earnest endeavor was made to carry out this recommendation. Statistical blanks were sent out, and attention was called to them through the denominational papers. Reports were thus obtained during the year from thirteen hundred schools. From year to year special

attention was given to this important subject. As the result of these persistent efforts the Department now has as complete and accurate a system of Sabbath-school statistics as can be found in any Church. They are annually published in the Appendix to the Minutes of the General Assembly.

NORMAL-CLASS WORK.

From the outset the Board pressed upon the Church the necessity and importance of the more thorough preparation of Sabbath-school teachers. Under the auspices of the Presbyteries of Philadelphia and Philadelphia Central the Superintendent began a Normal Class in January, 1879. The meetings were held in the Assembly-Room of the Board of Publication. The class was largely attended, and gave an impulse toward a higher standard of Bible teaching. During the next winter it excited still greater interest. The successful operation of this class in this centre of influence led to the organization of similar classes for the training of Sabbath-school teachers in many parts of the Church. Two volumes, entitled *Westminster Normal-Class Outlines, Junior and Middle Courses*, were prepared and published, to be used in preparation classes for teachers. From year to year conventions and institutes were held in connection with many of our Synods and Presbyteries. Such institutes elevate the standard of Bible teaching; they stimulate thought upon the subjects included in their labor; they create fresh enthusiasm for earnest study and for better work in these lines.

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES.

In nearly all our Theological Seminaries the Secretary furnished from time to time series of lectures concerning the Sabbath-school Work, the Training of Teachers, Preaching to Children, the Pastor's Position and Work in the Sabbath-School, and other kindred subjects.

THE SCHOOL, THE CHURCH AND THE HOME.

The Board also endeavored to prevent the Sabbath-school from becoming a substitute for the preaching service of the Church. Efforts were organized to bring into the worship of the sanctuary every scholar of our schools.

The statistical blanks sent out by the department to all our schools require a report of the number of scholars habitually attending the preaching service. Year by year effort has also been made to prevent the Sabbath-school from becoming a substitute for parental training. We have many assurances that the Sabbath-school is now proving an auxiliary to home-training, providing it with an admirable system of lessons to be taught by fathers and mothers, and that in thousands of cases the Sabbath-school lesson exercise is a recitation to the teacher, and a review by him of what the scholar has learned of the Bible and Catechism under parental supervision and instruction at home.

CHILDREN'S DAY.

The General Assembly of 1883 designated the second Sabbath in June as "Children's Day," on which special services for the children should be held, and the vital

topics of the Christian nurture and the conversion of the young should be pressed upon the thought of the entire congregation. The observance of this day has become very general throughout our Church, and has been attended with most excellent practical and spiritual results.

SABBATH-SCHOOL COLLECTIONS.

The Assembly of 1883 also emphatically declared that in its judgment Sabbath-schools "should always and especially remember the Sabbath-School Missionary Work of the Board" in their contributions. The Secretary was directed, in all his addresses and public and private conferences, to make it a distinct aim to stimulate liberality, especially that of Sabbath-schools, toward the Board's Missionary Fund, and to have collections of the churches and Sabbath-schools turned into its treasury. It was recommended, with the approval of the Assembly, that special collections should be made for this object on Children's Day. By these efforts the contributions of our schools have been largely increased.

Thus the review of the plans and operations of this Department from the Reunion in 1870 to the reorganization of the Board in 1887 shows as the result a larger and more intelligent apprehension of the Sabbath-school Work, a deepening interest in it, and more of wise oversight and effort to improve its methods and appliances.

EXAMINATION OF ASSETS AND ACCOUNTS.

The General Assembly of 1884 appointed a Special

Committee, which was charged with the duty of making a thorough examination of the assets and accounts of the Board, with instructions to employ an expert accountant, to be paid by the Board.

This Committee in the prosecution of the work assigned it engaged the services of a gentleman of unquestioned ability in his profession. The work of the accountant was thorough, exhaustive and conscientious. Many months were spent in the investigation, at an expense of several thousand dollars. The final report of the Committee was presented to the Assembly of 1886. This report contained the following statement :

Under the rigid examination of our expert of the result of two years of work, whilst some slight inaccuracies were brought to light in the counting-room, resulting from want of care, and perhaps too great a pressure of other duties besides legitimate book-keeping on the part of the Accountant, there is not the slightest evidence of intentional wrong as far as the pecuniary affairs of the Board are concerned.

The assets of the Board are all in good condition, and the securities and trust funds, amounting to \$92,271.86, safely deposited in proper hands. In two instances the proceeds of the trust funds have not been applied in the direction indicated by the donors.

It was found in the course of this investigation, as here reported, that the interest accruing from certain funds for Bible purposes had been credited to the Missionary Fund and used for general missionary work, instead of being applied in accordance with the stipulations of the donors. This error was corrected

by the Board as soon as it was discovered, and the proper appropriation made of these bequests.

RESIGNATION OF DR. SCHENCK.

The Rev. Wm. E. Schenck, D. D., completed his thirtieth year of continuous service as Corresponding Secretary of the Board, November 1, 1884. The Board made record of this fact by the adoption of a minute expressive of its high appreciation of the value of the services rendered by Dr. Schenck during this long series of years, and "in order that he might be thoroughly restored to that health which had been temporarily impaired in its service, and that he might be built up for still longer service to the Board, recommended him, at such time as might be most agreeable to himself, to take a vacation of several months."

Dr. Schenck continued in the active discharge of the duties of his office during the winter and spring of 1885. For most of the summer of that year he was prostrated by serious illness. He recovered, however, sufficiently to enable him to resume his duties in September, and he continued to discharge them, though laboring under serious indisposition, until near the end of the year, when he availed himself of the leave of absence so cordially extended to him and urged upon him the preceding year. After spending some weeks in California his physical condition constrained him to send to the Board the following letter, resigning the office which he had so long held; which letter was presented to the Board at its Stated Meeting, March 23, 1886:

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA,
February 24, 1886.

To the Presbyterian Board of Publication :

It will be remembered that at your last annual meeting in June, 1885, I stated that I had been seriously considering the question of declining a re-election at that time on the ground of ill-health, but that, at the request of many of your members, I did consent to re-election for another year. I came to the Pacific Coast in the middle of December, hoping for a restoration, in this warm and lovely climate, to my accustomed health. I am still hopeful that this may be accomplished, but medical advisers tell me that it will be a work of *time*, and that if I return to the North too soon I may lose all that I have gained, and even more. To await here recovery of health would be likely to detain me longer than I ought to be absent from the duties of my office, or than your kind leave of absence would warrant.

On a review of the whole matter I have decided that my increasing years and precarious health require me to retire from the work I dearly love, and in the prosecution of which I have spent nearly thirty-two years of my life. I therefore hereby tender to the Board my resignation of the office of Corresponding Secretary, this resignation to take effect on the *first day of May next*. I send this paper at the earliest practicable moment, so as to give time for consideration as to what you may desire to do in reference to the appointment of a successor.

I need hardly say that it has cost me many and severe struggles to reach the above decision. I have dearly loved the work in which I have been engaged, and have never been so profoundly impressed with its importance, necessity and value as now, since I have been seeing the unspeakable need of it in New Mexico, Arizona and California.

When I became Corresponding Secretary of the Board, in 1854, it was comparatively an acorn. It has since become a mighty oak. In property, in the number of its publications, in widespread, potent and beneficent influences, it has many times doubled its resources. That our divine Lord and Master may watch over it and bless it more and more, and use it through coming centuries for the advancement of his own kingdom and glory, is and shall lifelong be my earnest prayer.

Most truly and fraternally yours,

W. E. SCHENCK.

A series of resolutions expressive of the feelings of the Board in view of the resignation of Dr. Schenck, and also proposing important changes in the organization of the Board, was presented, and after consideration referred to a Committee of seven, with instructions "to consider whether any, and if any what, changes should be made in the officering of the Board and its By-laws, in view of Dr. Schenck's resignation, and to recommend such changes as it might deem desirable."

This Committee presented its report at the next monthly meeting of the Board, April 27, 1886, as follows :

Your Committee, appointed at the last meeting of the Board to consider the matters involved in the resolutions which were then offered, in view of the resignation of his office tendered by Rev. William E. Schenck, D. D., the Corresponding Secretary, have given careful attention to the subject entrusted to them, and now report as follows :

1. That they are of opinion that proper regard for the health of Dr. Schenck makes it desirable to accept his resignation without unnecessary delay, in order that he

may be relieved of the care and anxiety which necessarily wear upon him so long as he is, in any manner, responsible for the discharge of official duties.

2. In the event of the resignation of the Corresponding Secretary being accepted, your Committee are of the opinion that a very serious question arises with reference to the future interests and prosperity of the Board.

It is not necessary to go into any details for the purpose of demonstrating that there have been in the past certain frictions and diversities of interest in different departments of our work which have interfered with the most efficient and successful administration of this branch of the organized effort of our Church.

Instead of there being one scheme, harmoniously and smoothly developed along several lines, there have too often been divergent and discordant enterprises, advocated and urged, one against the other, as warmly and earnestly as if the different branches of the work of the Board belonged to distinct and rival organizations, instead of being, as they are and ought to be more completely, but separate arms and forces of one organism. We fear that too much has been lost already, in respect of unity, symmetry and efficiency, in this line of benevolence and activity. We believe that no change would contribute more to the prosperity of the Board, and to the growth of an intelligent and permanent confidence on the part of the Church in its management, than such a reorganization among its executive officers as would give to one earnest, judicious man the supremacy in all matters of administration and in all departments, subject, of course, to the direction of the Board.

In case of a vacancy in the office of Corresponding Secretary, an opportunity is presented for making such a change.

The Committee are of the opinion that there should be but one Secretary of the Board, and that he should be ultimate authority among the executive officers or agents of the Board, in all its departments or branches of work—editorial, missionary, Sabbath-school and business. His duties should be supervisory—to such an extent, at the least, as would enable him to bring all these branches of effort into harmonious relations with each other, and to keep them so.

The name of this officer should be indicative of his position—as, for example, General or Managing Secretary.

The editorial, Sabbath-school and business departments should each have its superintendent, who should attend to the details of the respective departments, under the general direction of the Secretary, who should also take such a share in the active labor of the missionary and editorial branches as he may be able to do. Some of the details of the missionary work might, we think, be united with that of the officer in charge of the Sabbath-school Work.

It may be suggested that a practical difficulty in such a scheme of reorganization presents itself in the fact that there is now a Secretary of Sabbath-school Work.

The Committee would not, however, consider this difficulty insurmountable. The name could be allowed to remain as it is for the time being. As it was imposed by the action of the General Assembly, it would not be competent for this Board, in any event, to do more than recommend a return to the old name. We would not, however, desire to do anything which might seem discourteous to the Secretary of that department, and therefore we would simply recommend such changes in the nature of his duties, or of his relation to them, as would bring his department into subordination to, and harmony with, the general system which we have in mind.

These statements, we think, will be sufficient to inform the Board of the line of thought and purpose which influences the Committee in recommending the adoption of the resolutions which will hereafter appear.

3. Whether such a reorganization as we have previously referred to should be made, or the Board continue its work substantially according to its present methods, your Committee recognize the importance of a wise selection of the successor to Rev. Dr. Schenck.

One of the resolutions which were referred to this Committee presents the name of the present Editorial Secretary, Rev. Dr. Dulles, in this connection, and it became necessary, therefore, for us to take the subject into consideration.

We have endeavored to look at it entirely apart from any personal feelings of kindness for the person named, as well as from any impression that he has any sort of right of succession.

To some of us the suggestion embodied in the resolution, equally with the introduction of the principal subject-matter of the resolutions, was a surprise.

On reflection, however, we are fully satisfied that, taking every interest of the Board into consideration, it would be a wise action to elect Dr. Dulles as Secretary, to take the duties of the Corresponding Secretary under such a distribution of labor as the Board may direct.

We think he has superior qualifications for present needs. His intimate knowledge of the history and work of the Board, his tact and affability in dealing with men, his industry and power of organization, together with his long experience, fit him, in our judgment, eminently for the position. His modesty and indisposition to push his own interests are not elements of weakness.

If in any essential respect he is lacking, it is in a point

where physical, and not mental or moral, infirmity is the cause. In this respect, we think, the demands in the interest of the Board are by no means so important as in others as to which we regard Dr. Dulles peculiarly strong.

We know of no man who could be entrusted with the charge of affairs at this time who would more thoroughly have the confidence of the Board and the Church than he. We would, therefore, cordially recommend his election.

Your Committee are not now prepared to report the changes which ought to be made in the By-Laws of the Board, in case the general scheme now recommended should be adopted. These ought to be prepared with deliberation and care, and it is obvious that the form which they should take will depend upon the manner in which it shall be determined that the work of the Board shall hereafter be conducted. The Committee therefore withholds any report upon that subject.

For the purpose of carrying out the views which have been hereinbefore stated the Committee recommend the adoption of the first and second of the resolutions offered by Rev. Dr. Mutchmore at the last meeting of the Board, and, in view of the report now made, that the third and fourth of those resolutions be not adopted.

They also recommend the adoption of the following resolutions—viz. :

1. That in the judgment of this Board, in view of the resignation of Rev. Dr. Schenck as Corresponding Secretary, it is desirable, in the interest of the work committed to the care of the Board, to elect a General Secretary who shall have supervision and direction, subject to the control of the Board, over all departments of its work, and to whom all the other administrative officers shall be subordinate.

2. That the work of the Board shall be so reorganized

as to do away with the offices of Corresponding and Editorial Secretaries, and to distribute the duties which have belonged heretofore to these two offices among the officers who shall remain after such reorganization.

3. That in the opinion of the Board it will be for the best interests of this Board to elect Rev. Dr. Dulles, the present Editorial Secretary, as General Secretary.

4. That this Committee be continued, for the purpose of considering and recommending such changes in the By-Laws and in the organization and distribution of the work of the Board, and in any matters cognate thereto, as may be desirable in view of the action of the Board upon the preceding resolutions.

This report was approved, and its recommendations were adopted. The resolutions with regard to the resignation of Dr. Schenck were as follows :

Resolved, 1. That, deeply regretting the occasion and necessity of this resignation, which will deprive the Board of the service of a most faithful and devoted officer, yet, regarding the positive and unqualified wish of Dr. Schenck, and in the hope that release from all care will restore his health, we feel compelled to meet his desires and accept his resignation, with the understanding that his salary shall be continued to June 1, 1886.

Resolved, 2. That a committee be appointed to draft and present to the Board a suitable testimony of the respect and regret of the Board.

The Committee of seven, by direction of the Board, presented the Minute provided for in the second resolution, which was adopted by a rising vote, May 6, 1886, as follows :

Resolved, That, in accepting the resignation of Dr.

Schenck as Corresponding Secretary of the Board, we desire to record our high appreciation of his zeal, fidelity and service during the many years he has occupied this office. First, as the Executive Officer of the Board belonging to one of the branches of the United Church, and since the Reunion the Executive Officer of the Consolidated Board, covering in all the term of thirty-two years, Dr. Schenck has labored with commendable zeal to promote the interests of this Board, and through its publications and Missionary Work to promote the cause of Christ as it is entrusted to the Presbyterian Church.

By constant devotion, and with a desire to do whatever was right, and whatever promoted efficiency and success for the work committed to his trust, Dr. Schenck gave his best efforts and the strength of his best years to this Board. And, although it is our regret and the regret of the Church that incessant anxiety has undermined his health, and has compelled him to lay down his work, yet we rejoice in the fruits of his service and congratulate him on retiring that he has done a work that honors him, and he will be held in the abiding esteem of his associates, and of the Church that he so long and so devotedly served.

The Rev. Dr. Dulles was appointed to discharge the duties of the Corresponding Secretary until the reorganization of the work of the Board should be effected under the resolutions adopted.

The Committee of seven reported to the Board at its meeting in September, 1886, such changes in the By-laws as it judged necessary for the reorganization of the Board and the distribution of its work according to the plan adopted at the April meeting. After prolonged discussion the Report of the Committee was finally adopted, January 18, 1887. Under the amended

By-laws the Rev. John W. Dulles, D. D., was elected General Secretary, and the Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D., Editor.

DEATH OF DR. DULLES.

Dr. Dulles, however, never entered upon the new responsibilities laid upon him. At the time of his election he was seriously ill. He died April 13, 1887.

The Board met the next day. Mr. Samuel C. Perkins, Rev. Charles A. Dickey, D. D. and Rev. William Brenton Greene, Jr., were appointed a Committee to prepare resolutions in regard to the death of Dr. Dulles. The Committee reported the following, which were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That this Board has heard with deep grief and unfeigned sorrow of the death of the Rev. John W. Dulles, D. D., its General Secretary, who had been identified with the Publication Work of the Presbyterian Church for so many years, and had won the esteem, respect and affection of all who had been associated with him.

Resolved, That the book-store of the Board be closed on the afternoon of the funeral, after two o'clock, and that the members of the Board, its officers and employés attend the funeral services in a body.

Resolved, That the Business Committee be authorized to make all necessary arrangements.

Resolved, That this Committee be continued, with instructions to prepare a suitable Minute to be entered on the records expressive of the feelings of the Board in view of the great loss which it has sustained.

The Committee reported the following Minute to the Board at its Stated Meeting, April 26, 1887, and it was unanimously adopted :

The Committee to whom was referred the preparation of a Minute to be entered on the Records of the Board in memory of the late General Secretary, Rev. John W. Dulles, D. D., respectfully submit the following:

John Welsh Dulles, born in Philadelphia November 4, 1823, was the son of Joseph H. and Margaret (Welsh) Dulles. His father graduated at Yale in 1814, and was for many years a leading merchant in Philadelphia, a member of the Fifth Presbyterian Church, and for twenty-two years, from 1831 till 1853, when he left to take part in the formation of Calvary Church, a member of the First Church under the pastorate of Rev. Albert Barnes.

Dr. Dulles was prepared for college at the academy of Rev. Samuel W. Crawford, in Philadelphia, and entered Yale in the spring of 1841 about the middle of Freshman year. He graduated with high honor in 1844 in a class of 104, a number unusually large for that period. June 4, 1843, he united with the College Church upon profession of his faith, and was dismissed April 6, 1845, to Clinton Street Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia. As a student he was "beloved, trusted and respected by his fellows;" marked for his "gentleness of disposition and uniform gentlemanly and frank deportment." The sincerity and earnestness of his Christian character impressed his fellow-students, and, being of an even and kindly temperament, the influence of his example and conversation was always good.

After graduation he entered upon and completed the theological course at Union Theological Seminary, New York, and during his vacation was engaged in colportage under the American Tract Society. He had in 1845 studied medicine for a short time with a view of being the more completely furnished for the foreign missionary work which he had in view from a very early period after he made an open profession of religion.

After graduating at the Theological Seminary, and being licensed and ordained, he sailed in the fall of 1848 for Southern India as a missionary of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, but was obliged, owing to the failure of his health, to give up his cherished hopes of labor for the Master in this direction, and returned to this country in 1852.

He entered the service of the American Sunday-School Union (of which his father was one of the founders) November 1, 1853, as Secretary of Missions, and resigned November 1, 1856, to accept the office of "Secretary and Editor of the Committee's Publications" of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, and from that time to the day of his death his labors were devoted to the cause of publication in the Presbyterian Church; for after the Reunion of the two branches he was elected, June 14, 1870, Editorial Secretary of the Board of Publication of the reunited Church. After the resignation of the Rev. Dr. Schenck as Corresponding Secretary in 1885, Dr. Dulles attended to the duties of both secretaryships, until in January last he was elected to the newly-established office of General Secretary.

In 1854 he wrote *Life in India*, a small work for Sabbath-schools, which was published by the American Sunday-School Union, and which has had a sale of 11,000 copies.

In 1880, after returning from a trip to Palestine and the East during a vacation which had been granted him by this Board in view of his long and earnest labors in the cause, he wrote *The Ride Through Palestine*, the copyright of which he presented to the Board, and which was published by it, and of which 3400 copies have been sold.

His constant and varied contributions to the religious periodicals of the organizations with which he had been connected, as well as to others, would, if collected, amount to many volumes. He took a deep interest and an active

part in the management of the Bible Society and Colonization Society of Pennsylvania.

While he preached occasionally and with acceptance when called upon, his voice was not equal to the strain of continuous effort; but as superintendent for twenty-nine years of the Sabbath-school of the Walnut Street Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, and as a faithful attendant upon the church services and active in their maintenance and support, he filled a sphere of usefulness which, in connection with the discharge of the duties of his official stations, may well be considered as rounding out the full measure of what might have been his work in an active ministry.

It is fitting that upon the records of this Board, in whose service (including the years in the employ of one of its immediate predecessors) Dr. Dulles has been so prominent during thirty-one consecutive years, should be entered a brief notice of the events of his life.

But more than this should appear, though words must ever fail fully to express even the appreciation of his associates, much less the true worth of a man of such a character as we all recognized in Dr. Dulles. The testimony of his classmates and associates in college life, borne after the lapse of forty years and upward, shows the kindling and steady, clear, and bright illumination in his soul of the power of the gospel. And his subsequent life, as all who have known him can bear abundant witness, has but intensified that illuminative influence with a clearer, steadier, whiter and purer glow, shining "more and more unto the perfect day," into which his soul entered when it took its flight in peaceful hope from the pale and worn and suffering and wearied body in the early morning of the Wednesday barely two weeks since, April 13, 1887.

Can we not all from our very hearts assent without

qualification to the application to Dr. Dulles of the words of the apostle in describing the "wisdom that is from above," and sincerely say of him who not only professed, but strove to show forth in all his life, that "wisdom," that he was "first pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy"?

Among the strongest and weightiest evidences to the worth and loveliness and gentleness of our late Secretary are the manifestations of sorrow at his loss and respect to his memory on the part of the employés of this Board. To every one he was personally known; and as he went in and out before them from day to day in his comings and goings through these long years, there is not one that does not recall, with a lighting up of countenance at the recollection, his cheery, warm, sincere greeting, always accompanied with a serene, unruffled expression and a gentle smile. His fellow-secretaries, the business superintendent, the treasurer, the porter, the engineer, the ladies in the store, the packers, the clerks, the boys—every one with whom he came in contact, no matter how humble the position—knew the transparency, the sincerity, the gentleness, the benignity, of his character. And their feeling was openly manifest in the attendance of all, without exception, upon the funeral services.

The members of this Board individually and as a body can no less, however, express their sorrow at the loss of one whose work for these many years has been subject to their ultimate control and direction, and yet who has so often by his judicious counsels led them to the adoption of wise measures for the advancement of its interests. The same amiable qualities which have been already referred to characterized all his intercourse, bearing, conduct and demeanor whenever he appeared in the Board itself or in any of its committees, or when he had occasion to

confer with individual members upon matters which by either seemed to be of importance to its interests.

It would, however, be unjust to Dr. Dulles if this record were to be left to transfer to those who may hereafter read it the impression that his character was forceless or marked only by a gentle amiability. He had the force and courage of his convictions; not obstinacy, not perverseness, but an innate integrity of purpose founded upon truth as apprehended with all gentleness toward those who held contrary views. For the truth as he held it after careful and conscientious and intelligent thought he stood firm, and would have stood firm under the fiercest trials of martyrdom. In this Board he most beautifully and consistently showed forth the harmonies—and may it not be said the Christ-like consistencies?—of gentleness and loveliness of feeling toward the individual, with the sternest and most inflexible adherence to righteousness of thought and principle and conduct.

Some of us had known Dr. Dulles personally for nearly half a century, and, as connected with the Publication Cause of the Presbyterian Church, for nearly the whole of the thirty-one consecutive years during which he had held office in its Committee and Board. No expression or even a shadow of intimation of bitterness from Dr. Dulles, it can confidently be asserted, does or can memory bring up toward those who differed from him, even when the points of difference involved important questions of policy, some of which might affect his own personal relations to the Board. Ever calm, gentle, unselfish, with an eye single to what he believed to be right in view of his responsibility to the constraining love of Christ, he was earnest, firm, clear and decided in his views, and, unaffected by the prevailing result, pursued the even tenor of his way in the path of his allotted sphere with the same conscientious, industrious and faithful attention to its duties as if not

even a zephyr's breath had appeared to ruffle the calm repose of his faith and trust in the divine oversight and guidance in all human affairs, whether of Nations and Peoples, Organizations Secular or Ecclesiastical, or of Individuals.

This Board mourns sincerely his loss, which occurred when he was just on the verge of what it hoped would be the commencement of a new era of prosperity and advancement in the line of its special department of the work of the Church. We record this as our unfeigned and hearty testimony to the worth of Rev. John W. Dulles, D. D., the late General Secretary of the Board, as a man, a Christian, and a faithful servant in all the fields wherein he was called to labor.

The Board is respectfully asked to have this Minute entered upon its records, printed with the Annual Report to the General Assembly, and a copy sent to the family of Dr. Dulles.

SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
CHARLES A. DICKEY,
WM. BRENTON GREENE, JR.,
Committee.

April 26, 1887.

ELECTION OF REV. E. R. CRAVEN, D. D.

The Board at its meeting May 10, 1887, unanimously elected the Rev. Elijah R. Craven, D. D., General Secretary, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. Dulles. Dr. Craven's acceptance of the office was presented to the Board June 21, 1887.

ACTION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 1886.

The Standing Committee of the General Assembly of 1886 on the Board of Publication presented an

elaborate Report, which was adopted with great unanimity by that body. After a full and commendatory notice of the Missionary, Sabbath-school and Business Work of the Board during the year under review, it reported for the consideration of the Assembly the subject of the reorganization of the Board, together with the causes which seemed to make such a reorganization advisable :

We cannot close this Report without adverting to the difficulties which have heretofore existed between the two departments of the Board, and which appear to be inherent.

The Business Department naturally desires to make as good a showing of its work as possible, and the Missionary Department to exhibit a thorough systematic distribution of our literature through their colporteurs. The methods of one of these are those of business, and the other those of benevolence.

The General Assembly in its deliverances has repeatedly insisted upon as wide a separation as possible between these two departments of the Board, and this feeling has been expressed by this Assembly in its action on the report of the Special Committee appointed in 1884. The officers and some of the members of the Board have informed the Committee that the separation between the two is as distinct as can be made.

* * * * *

Your Committee have considered that perhaps to separate the two departments absolutely, and to put the Sunday-school and colportage work under the immediate supervision of one head, and to organize the Publication Department as a business enterprise under another, dividing and reorganizing the Board as the case might

require, would be desirable. The separation of benevolence from business would give each an ample sphere for the most active endeavor without encroaching upon the sphere of the other. It would remove the seeming objection of the Church at large to contributing to a business enterprise, as the Business Department is now, and would be, self-sustaining, and the contributions would thus be solicited for a purely benevolent Board. The change would not increase the objects of benevolence on the contribution-roll of the Church, as the contributions which go to the Missionary Department of the Board of Publication would be made direct to the Board of Sunday-School and Colportage Work.

It is impossible for the Committee in the short time allotted to it to investigate intelligently and report on all these questions. We need more light on the subject, but we recognize that some change in the management of this work is necessary. The great respect for and confidence in the Board which we have suggests that the difficulty is organic or it would have been removed before this. It is possible that such a separation cannot, and ought not, to be made, but your Committee think it would be a wise action for the Assembly to appoint a Special Committee of its most experienced and wisest ministers and elders to investigate this question thoroughly and report at the next Assembly.

In concluding this report, your Committee recommend the following resolutions and suggestions for action of this General Assembly :

1. That the Board of Publication deserves the thanks and commendation of the General Assembly for its fidelity to the trust committed to it.
2. We express our heartfelt appreciation of the long-continued and faithful services of the Rev. Dr. Schenck,

Corresponding Secretary of this Board, and regret exceedingly that his declining years and physical infirmities should have compelled him, from a sense of duty, to resign the trust which he has so long and so efficiently held. We assure him of our sincere sympathy in his afflictions, and earnestly pray that his health may be speedily restored.

* * * * *

11. The Moderator is hereby authorized to appoint a Special Committee, consisting of four ministers and four elders, who shall take into consideration the expediency, feasibility and legality of reorganizing this work by separating absolutely the Sabbath-school work and colportage work, or Missionary Department, from the editorial and publishing work, or Business Department, of the Board, and, if such is found to be expedient, feasible and legal, to report a plan of such separation, and, if not so found, to ascertain what steps are necessary to put the work of this Board on a permanent and harmonious basis, and to report their recommendations, together with the reasons therefor, to the next General Assembly.

The following-named gentlemen were appointed as the Special Committee: *Ruling Elder*, George H. Shields, Chairman; *Ministers*, John Hall, D. D., George P. Hays, D. D., E. R. Craven, D. D., Edward C. Ray; *Ruling Elders*, Frank L. Sheppard, William M. Tenney, Hon. John Trunkey.

IV.

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
AND SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.

1887—1889.

BOARD OF PUBLICATION AND SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.

THE Special Committee appointed by the General Assembly of 1886 gave diligent and prolonged examination to the matters submitted for its consideration, availing itself of every possible means of information. The Report was presented to the Assembly of 1887, and unanimously adopted May 21, 1887. Seldom has the Assembly taken so important action with such entire unanimity. The Report has great historic value, and, notwithstanding its length, we give it in full:

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

AUTHORITY OF COMMITTEE.

Your Special Committee, consisting of four ministers and four elders, which was appointed by the Moderator of the last General Assembly to consider matters connected with the Board of Publication under the following resolution—to wit: “The Moderator is hereby authorized to appoint a Special Committee, consisting of four ministers and four elders, who shall take into consideration the expediency, feasibility and legality of reorganizing this work by separating absolutely the Sabbath-school work and colportage work, or Missionary Department, from the

editorial and publishing work, or Business Department, of the Board, and, if such is found to be expedient, feasible and legal, to report a plan of such separation, and, if not so found, to ascertain what steps are necessary to put the work of this Board on a permanent and harmonious basis, and to report their recommendations, together with the reasons therefor, to the next General Assembly"—begs leave to submit the following report:

MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE.

The Committee (except Dr. Hall and Judge Trunkey, who were absent from pressure of business) met pursuant to call on the 9th day of February, 1887, and also April 1, 1887, at the Board of Publication rooms, No. 1334 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa., and called before them the President of the Board of Publication, the Chairman or a representative of each Standing Committee (except the Auditing Committee) of the Board, and the executive officers thereof, and examined them thoroughly as to the character of the organization, the methods of business and the probable causes of friction between the different departments of the Board, and as to the general policy of the Board under its new By-laws, and as to the feasibility and expediency of such a separation as is contemplated in the General Assembly's resolution.

The Committee regrets exceedingly that it was deprived of the services of Dr. Dulles, the General Secretary of the Board, owing to his sickness. We feel that his long experience and great familiarity with the subject would have thrown much light on the questions involved. After the first adjournment of the Committee, Dr. Dulles so far recovered as to be able to present very succinctly his views on the subject in a letter to the Chairman of the Committee, which was considered by the Committee at its second meeting and materially aided it in coming to a conclusion.

The illness of Dr. Dulles culminated in his death on the 13th day of April, 1887. The Committee cannot refrain from expressing its great grief that the Board and the Church should have been deprived of the services of so able and experienced an officer at this time. He died literally in the harness, endeavoring to the last to aid the cause he so loved and to perfect the work of the Board. It will be long ere another, however skillful, will be able to fill the position which he so long held with honor to himself and benefit to the whole Church.

We found the members of the Board thoroughly in sympathy with the great work which is committed to it, earnestly alive to its interests and practically informed as to the needs of the Board. There was no want of harmony in regard to the importance of the interests committed to this Board among its members, but we found radical differences of opinion as to the methods of attaining the greatest efficiency in its work, and as to the results under its present organization. We found a seeming want of confidence on the part of some of the members of the Board in the value of certain methods heretofore adopted by some of the officers of the Board, rather than opposition to the objects sought to be attained.

SEPARATION NOT FEASIBLE OR EXPEDIENT.

We found that it was almost the unanimous opinion of the members of the Board and the officers thereof who were examined that an absolute separation of the Business and Editorial Departments from the Sunday-school and Colportage or Missionary Department was neither expedient nor feasible. The Committee examined very carefully all the members and officers of the Board who wished to be heard, and did hear a representative from all its Committees and departments, as to their reasons why such separation should not be made. After hearing the evidence

and carefully considering and discussing the subject among ourselves, we were unanimously of the opinion that it would not be expedient or feasible to effect such separation, for the following reasons :

First. Observation and experience show that benevolent work is inevitably undertaken by any institution engaging in religious publication. The call for benevolent work lies in the very nature of religious publication and in the objects at which it aims.

Second. The separation of the Missionary or Benevolent Department from the Business Department might be the death-knell of the Board, because, if the benevolent idea were eliminated from the Board, it would receive little or no support from the Church at large.

Third. An organic separation of the Business from the Missionary Department of the work would more than likely increase the friction between the managers of these two departments, because the persons buying and the persons requiring assistance through the benevolent work of the Board are to a large extent the same persons. Letters calling for books constantly ask for grants, and the two are inextricably mingled. The disseverance of these two departments would lead to early and constant confusion and conflict, which could not easily be harmonized by two independent Boards.

Fourth. The withdrawal of the missionary from the business work would tend to secularize the business of the Board in an undesirable manner. The character of the publications now issued is largely influenced by the fact that the Board is a missionary institution.

Fifth. The business which is derived from the Sunday-School Work of the Church lies at the bottom of the business prosperity of the Board, the business derived from the Sunday-schools being about seventy-five per cent.

of the whole business of the Board, and increasing in that direction. This is so also as to the selling of books, the books now in demand being mainly Sunday-school books.

Sixth. The periodical business, which has grown very rapidly, has become the main branch of the Business Department, and this is exclusively Sunday-school work.

Seventh. A separation would necessarily entail an increased expense in conducting the work now under the supervision of this Board, in office-room, clerk-hire and salaries. Each separate department would require a full outfit to carry on its work.

Eighth. The separation would also involve the establishment of another Board; and, while at present the Business Department derives no support from the contributions of the Church at large, such contributions being devoted entirely to the Missionary Department, yet the separation might result in such a diminution of the income of the Publishing Department as to require aid from the churches by way of contributions to publish books and periodicals. This will be more apparent if the Assembly takes into consideration that large numbers of the books published by the Board of Publication are non-paying books, and are published by order of the Assembly from time to time for the uses of the Church.

Ninth. We found that liberal-minded and large-hearted Presbyterians had contributed large sums of money for the purpose of establishing the Central Publishing House in Philadelphia for the benefit of the Board of Publication, as well as the general advantage of our other denominational interests. While technically, perhaps, under the law, these trusts might be divided, yet the moral obligation of preserving them intact, not only for the Business Department, but also for the Missionary Department, seems to negative the idea of such separation.

For these and other reasons the Committee, although when it first met perhaps unanimously thinking separation the wisest policy, came to the conclusion that the business of the Board was so complicated, and its diverse interests were so interlaced and dependent one upon the other, that a separation into independent Boards might result in great detriment to this important arm of the Church-work. Being of this opinion, it was not deemed necessary to go into an examination of the complex and delicate legal questions which might arise as to the property of the Board and as to bequests heretofore made to its funds.

WHAT IS NECESSARY TO HARMONIZE THE BOARD.

The Committee next attempted to ascertain what steps were necessary to put the work of this Board on a permanent and harmonious basis, in accordance with the instructions of the latter part of the resolution under which it was appointed.

A short history of the Board itself from its organization to the present time will greatly aid in understanding the reasons which impel the Committee to make the recommendations hereinafter made. We trace its history through both branches of the Church prior to the Reunion in 1870.

HISTORY.—OLD SCHOOL.

In 1838 the Old School Assembly organized a Board of Publication, reciting, "*Whereas*, Sabbath-school and tract publications cannot fail to exert a very great influence upon the growth of our Church and country; *and whereas*, It is the duty of the highest judicatory of the Church to exercise such a supervision over this subject as will secure the diffusion of sound and scriptural principles, 'for the promotion of charity, truth and holiness,' through all the churches under our care; therefore, *Resolved*, 1. That the General Assembly will superintend and conduct by its own

proper authority the work of furnishing the churches under its care with suitable tract and Sabbath-school publications by a Board appointed for that purpose and directly amenable to that Assembly." And for that purpose a Board was constituted, of forty ministers and forty laymen, to be styled the "Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-School Books of the General Assembly in the United States of America." (See *Presbyterian Digest*, p. 433.)

In 1839 the Assembly changed the name to the "Presbyterian Board of Publication," and so altered its constitution as to require said Board "to publish not only tracts and Sabbath-school books, but also approved works in support of the great principles of the Reformation, as exhibited in the doctrines and order of the Presbyterian Church, and whatever else the Assembly may direct." In 1848 the General Assembly recommended the Synods and Presbyteries to establish depositories, and by an efficient system of colportage under their direction to aid the Board in securing a wide circulation for their books; which recommendation was repeated in 1850. In 1852 the Assembly recommended the Board to consider the organization of co-ordinate agencies and depositories at the West, South and South-west as speedily as may be deemed consistent with the safety and permanency of the organization already established at Philadelphia, and recommended to all pastors and churches to render aid to the Board by contribution of funds, so as to enable the Board greatly to enlarge the work of colportage. In 1856 the Assembly called the attention of the churches to the fact that there were two departments under the management of the Board—one a purely business, the other a charitable and missionary, enterprise, and expressed pleasure in the determination of the Board to keep the accounts of the two departments separate. It also recommended to the

Board to increase its Sabbath-school libraries as rapidly as possible. In nearly every Assembly down to 1870 the Sabbath-school and colportage work of the Board was highly commended, and the churches and Presbyteries were urged to aid in increasing its efficiency.

It will be seen, on examining the Minutes of the General Assembly, that from the original organization of the Board down to the year 1870, while the work "of publishing in cheap and substantial form well-selected books, sound in theology and rich in practical and devotional matter," was not underrated, yet the General Assembly consistently and emphatically commended as of the highest importance the Sabbath-school and colportage work of the Board.

HISTORY.—NEW SCHOOL.

The New School Church in 1852 established at Philadelphia a Standing Committee of nine persons, called the "Doctrinal Tract Committee," to superintend the publication of a series of tracts explanatory of the doctrines, government and missionary policy of the Presbyterian Church, as the General Assembly shall from time to time direct. In 1853 this Committee was authorized to take such measures as they shall deem advisable to secure funds for the erection of a house of publication, and collections in the churches were enjoined in aid of this publishing fund, under the control of the Committee. In 1854 the number of the Committee was increased to fifteen. In 1855 the name was changed to the "Presbyterian Publication Committee." In 1857 authority was given the Committee to publish not only such works as may present the peculiarities of our branch of the Christian Church in doctrine and practice, but from time to time such works of an evangelical character as may be profitable to the Church at large. This Assembly also enjoined an annual collection from the churches for the publication cause, and that

a sermon be preached before each General Assembly on the subject of publication.

In 1859 the General Assembly permitted all churches making an annual collection to order for their own use any publications of the Committee to the amount of one-half of their respective collections. In 1860 the Assembly recommended that the Publication Committee be endowed with a working capital of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars, requesting a special contribution in the churches for this object, and empowered the Committee to employ an agent for the furthering of this scheme, and also recommended presbyterial depositories for its books. This Assembly, in 1866—reciting, “We believe that the Sabbath-school is a nursery of the Christian Church, one bulwark of Christian doctrine, a promoter of Christian union, and an organizer of Christian labor; in other words, it saves the young, it secures the faith, it settles differences and it develops power,” etc.—ordered the appointment of a Permanent Committee on Sabbath-schools to supervise the Sabbath-school literature of the Church in co-operation with the Permanent Committee on Publication; to issue circulars which may help the cause, and use other appropriate methods of the Presbyteries to collect data, etc.; to promote the establishment of Sabbath-schools in needy localities in co-operation with the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions; to promote the Sabbath-school cause in heathen lands in co-operation with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions; to promote the establishment of Sabbath-schools in Mexico, etc., in co-operation with the American and Foreign Christian Union; to promote the increase of the ministry through the influences brought to bear on the Sabbath-school, and thus prove an auxiliary to the Education Committee. Presbyteries were instructed to appoint Presbyterial Committees on Sabbath-schools, and the Publication Committee

was authorized to send publications of the Church to Sabbath-school Committees in response to their directions. This Permanent Committee on Sabbath-schools lingered along without accomplishing very much until 1869, when it was dissolved at its own request.

The New School Assembly prior to this had repeatedly commended the Sunday-school cause to its churches and ministers, and had also endorsed the American Sunday-School Union as an efficient means of fostering and extending Sunday-schools.

It can be said of this branch of the Church, as of the Old School, that the benevolent work of its Publication Committee and the Sabbath-school Work were prominent features of its policy.

HISTORY SINCE REUNION.

At the Reunion in 1870 the Publication Board and Committee were consolidated. The Board was to be composed of forty-eight members, one-half ministers and one-half laymen, divided into three classes, and elected for three years respectively. The Board was to hold at least four meetings each year. The executive officers were to be a Secretary or Secretaries, whose titles and duties were to be defined by the Board, and a Treasurer, all other internal arrangements necessary for the purpose of its organization to be made by the Board of Publication after its reorganization. Each Presbytery was directed to appoint a Presbyterial Publication Committee to supervise the work of securing an annual collection for the Board, to recommend suitable persons to act as colporteurs, to correspond with the Board in reference to its work in the Presbytery, and to do whatever else may tend to promote the work and interests of the Board and to secure a thorough distribution of the Board's publications within and throughout the bounds of the Presbytery, etc.

In 1870 the General Assembly recommended to the Board to consider the propriety of establishing a Department of Sabbath-Schools, whose office it shall be to promote the number and efficiency of the Sabbath-schools throughout the churches, and strongly recommended the extension of the colportage work. This was repeated in 1871 by the General Assembly, and the Board was directed, "in appointing colporteurs, as far as possible to select such persons as may also be suitable for Sabbath-school missionaries, and instruct them to establish Sabbath-schools in destitute localities, under the supervision of the Presbyteries."

In 1871 the Board reported to the Assembly that its entire work had been divided into five branches, each branch being consigned to a Committee, all of the five Committees to report to the monthly meetings of the Board. These Committees are as follows: the Publishing Committee, to examine manuscripts and tracts; the Periodical Committee, to supervise the periodicals; the Missionary Committee, on colportage, gratuitous distribution and Sabbath-School Work; the Business Committee, to have charge of the property and business of the Board; the Auditing Committee, by which bills and accounts of all the departments are examined, approved or disallowed.

In 1872 a department of the Board of Publication having the Sabbath-schools in charge was separately constituted, and required to keep a distinct account with the Board. Its duty was to disseminate the publications of the Board by donations and by sale, by its appointees, who shall be called "Missionaries of the Board of Publication," and who shall be appointed subject to the approval and shall be under the control of the Presbyteries, "to supervise the whole Sabbath-school Work of the Church in connection with the Presbyteries, and aim to lift this important agency of Christian evangelization into the

prominence and efficiency which it deserves, and which the great needs of our country have so largely call for at the present time."

In 1872 the Board appointed Mr. J. Bennett Tyler General Superintendent of the Sabbath-School Department.

In 1878 the churches were urged to contribute more liberally to its missionary and colportage funds, and the Sabbath-school Work was commended. The appointment of Rev. James A. Worden as Superintendent of Sabbath-School Work was approved, and it was recommended that each Presbytery appoint a Committee to oversee and encourage the Sabbath-schools in the bounds of each Presbytery. This latter recommendation was repeated in 1879.

In 1880, Rev. James A. Worden was appointed by the General Assembly "Secretary of the Sabbath-School Work of the Board, his salary to be derived from the same sources as that of the other secretaries."

In 1881 the Board was directed to appoint from its own number a Standing Committee of seven to advise and consult with the Secretary of Sabbath-School Work.

In 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, the Sabbath-school and colportage work were prominently commended, and in 1885 the General Assembly adopted this resolution: "We would remind the Board that it is sustained with special reference to benevolent and missionary work, to which the commercial feature should be auxiliary, whilst the Business Department furnishes and aids the dissemination of the religious literature of our Church."

DEPOSITORIES AND BRANCH HOUSES.

The General Assembly in 1882 authorized the establishment of depositories at Chicago and St. Louis, and in 1884

of one in San Francisco, and in 1885 recommended conferences between the Board and the Presbytery of New York for the purpose of establishing a first-class depository in New York City. The Board also, from time to time, established in different cities in the country agencies and branch houses for the sale of books, which policy was approved by the General Assembly. In some cases the books are sold by the Board to the bookseller at the ordinary wholesale discount from its catalogue prices; in others they are placed on sale, a commission being allowed in the shape of ordinary discounts from the catalogue prices, the books remaining, however, the property of the Board. There are some twenty of these "branch houses" or "representatives" now established. In 1885 the General Assembly passed the following resolution: "The General Assembly would call the attention of the Board to the necessity of great care in the establishment of what are termed 'branch houses' or 'representatives,' not multiplying these except when the necessity is apparent, and the probabilities of advancing religious ends without militating against the interests of other important agencies are such as to warrant the extension of the same; also,

"The Missionary Department of the Board is instructed to advance its colportage work, as far as possible, in harmony with the interests of these representative houses, instructing the colporteurs to call attention to these as sources of supply which may remain when they shall have gone to other fields of labor."

In 1886 the policy announced in the first of the above resolutions was again enjoined on the Board by the General Assembly, with the added requirement that "the business be so conducted that the profits thereof shall accrue to the benefit of the Board rather than to the benefit of private individuals."

CAUSES OF FRICTION.

Discord between the Missionary and Business Departments arose from the real or supposed encroachment of the colporteurs, in making sales, on the business of these agencies or branch houses, and from the manner in which sums of money sent to buy books, accompanied with requests for donations of books, were treated by the Missionary Department. The custom of the Missionary Department has been to consider all money received as contributions to the missionary fund, and the books and periodicals indiscriminately as grants from the Missionary Department. As this subject was fully discussed in the report of Dr. Eaton's Special Committee last year to the Assembly, it is needless to pursue it farther in detail.

Dissatisfaction between these two departments also arose from the fact that each was zealously pushing its own work in order to make as favorable a showing thereof as possible. But it is not necessary to go farther into the details of these differences, or to decide who was right or who was wrong in such disagreements. The only thing the Committee cares to record is the fact of such disagreements.

Prior to the resignation of Dr. Schenck there was no recognized head to the Board; the Business Committee, the Publishing Committee, the Committee on Periodicals, the Missionary Committee and the Sabbath-school Committee, in connection with the respective executive officers of these departments, had complete control of their respective branches, subject, of course, to the approval of the Board at its meetings. Each Committee kept a record of its proceedings, which was submitted to the Board monthly for approval. The result of this plan of organization naturally made each Committee zealous for the promotion of its own special work.

The Board is composed of clergymen and laymen who have other duties to perform which largely require their time, and they naturally give the time which they devote to the Board's interests to a thorough understanding of the workings of that branch over which they have oversight. This results in practically creating a Board of forty-eight members, consisting of five smaller independent Boards, each with distinct objects to subserve and with independent and often diverse plans of procedure, although the main differences seem to have arisen between the Business and Missionary Departments. It was natural, when the Board met as a whole, and such differences were to be considered, that the Chairman of each Committee, backed by the members of his Committee, would seek to convince the Board of the importance of that Committee's work; and it is not surprising that there should be radical differences of opinion as to the proper policies to be adopted by the Board in its general work. In fact, it is surprising that they should have been able to get along as harmoniously as their history shows. When you add to this the independence of each Secretary and Superintendent, naturally backed with the sympathy of the Committee with which he was associated, coupled with the laudable desire to make as favorable showing as possible of his work, the conflict of opinion and friction between the departments resulted in the very nature of things. This is perhaps an incurable difficulty, but we hope the plan hereinafter suggested will to a great extent remedy it.

An added cause of discontent is found in the fact that the Corresponding Secretary, the Editorial Secretary and the Sabbath-School Secretary were each members of the Board and had the right to vote on all questions, whereas the Assistant Editor and the Business Superintendent were not members of the Board. Of course the presence of these gentlemen at the meetings of the Board, and the

respect which was naturally felt for all its members, must have interfered to some extent with a free interchange of opinion as to the action of such Secretaries, and possibly might give color to the opinion that the departments were not equally represented in the Board's deliberations.

Another difficulty in the composition of the Board is in the number of its members. As already stated, it consists of forty-eight members. Most of them reside reasonably near Philadelphia; some of them, however, are thousands of miles from the Board's general office. Many of the most important questions coming before the Board never receive the consideration of more than one-half its members. The practical result of this was presented to the Committee in the attempt recently made by the Board to change its By-laws. The rules required that a change could be made only by a majority of its members, but the Board was not able to effect the change after repeated efforts for more than six months, because they could not obtain the presence of a majority of the Board favoring the change. There was some dissatisfaction resulting from the method in which it was finally effected; but this Committee is of the opinion that it has nothing to do with that question.

We found that in more than one instance the pastor and more than one elder from the same church are members of the Board, and that several members are also members of one or more of the other benevolent Boards of the Church.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

We found the Business Department of the Board well managed and self-supporting, and we take pleasure in correcting an erroneous opinion in the Church growing out of a misapprehension as to the use of the large capital employed in this department. In the first place, many of

our books do not pay the expense of their publication, not being generally salable. Of these we may mention those of a strictly denominational character and those published by order of the Assembly. Second, the aim of this department is to cheapen its books and periodicals rather than reap profits from sales. Third, a large amount of books are gratuitously distributed every year, not only to the destitute by colporteurs, but to charitable institutions, literary and theological institutions, on which no profit is made. Fourth, a large part of the Board's buildings—which are a part of its capital, and which might be rented—are used by other Boards of the Church for offices, rent free. A fair valuation of the rental of these offices was shown to be at least five thousand dollars per annum. This use is consistent with the wishes and intention of the donors of the fund for constructing the building, and no fault is attributed to the Board for such use. In addition, the expense of lighting, heating and repairing the building for this gratuitous use falls on the Business Department. The small per cent. of profits on the seemingly large capital is thus explained. We state these facts in order that the Assembly may be fully informed on the subject.

EDITORIAL AND PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT.

The Committee found the Editorial and Publishing Department well organized, both books and periodicals evidencing excellent work and great care on the part of the editorial staff. Up to the resignation of Dr. Schenck this has been peculiarly within the province of Dr. Dulles and his efficient assistant, Dr. Miller, and the Periodical and Publishing Committees. Since that resignation the work has devolved largely on Dr. Miller, and we think this branch of the work will compare favorably with any of like character in the United States.

SABBATH-SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

The Sabbath-school Work, under the supervision of Dr. Worden, has, by reason of the character of the Board's organization, been confined to the holding of Sabbath-school institutes, platform work in bringing the subject before the Assembly and arousing renewed interest in localities, and in the organization of a course of normal instruction known as "Bible Correspondence School." At present the Secretary has no connection in any way with the colporteurs in their Sabbath-school Work, nor has he any connection, save as a contributor, with the Sabbath-school helps. The colporteurs, being under the supervision of the Missionary Department, neither make reports to nor receive any instructions from the Secretary of Sabbath-School Work. Dr. Worden has done very efficient work within the sphere to which he is limited, and deserves the commendation of the Church for his untiring labors.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

This work has always been under the supervision of the Corresponding Secretary till the time of his resignation, since then under the care of Dr. Dulles, the oversight of this work being committed to the General Secretary by the Board in its recently altered By-laws. The management of colporteurs, of grants to the destitute by gratuitous distribution to needy Sabbath-schools and other institutions able to pay in part only for what they need, the handling of the benevolent contributions of the Church and of individuals, the occupation of new fields, etc., all come under this department as missionary work.

CONCLUSIONS OF COMMITTEE.

After careful and prayerful consideration of every phase of the subject and long discussions of the matter among

ourselves, the Committee unanimously reached the following conclusions, believing that the suggested changes will put the "work of the Board on a permanent and harmonious basis," make it far more efficient and commend it to renewed support from the Church at large.

Following the oft-expressed deliverances of the General Assembly which have heretofore been quoted, we believe that now the Sabbath-school Work is by far the most important feature of the Board's work. Second only to this is its colportage work or missionary work. Auxiliary to both in furnishing Christian literature in books and periodicals stands the Business Department.

We would emphasize the deliverances of the General Assembly in declaring that the Sabbath-school and colportage work should be done by the same missionaries. The field for both is the same—"the destitute regions;" not necessarily outlying sparsely-settled regions, but places destitute of God's word and of religious teaching even in our largest cities. The nature of the work is the same, as organizing, fostering and strengthening Sabbath-schools naturally falls in with gratuitous distribution of books, religious visitation to families and sales of the Board's literature. If Presbyteries generally would heed the admonition of the Assembly and nominate as missionaries for this work men who have qualifications as Sabbath-school workers, much good would be accomplished. The natural development of these schools is into churches, and our records will show that some of our most flourishing churches owe their being to the successful planting of a Sabbath-school. The Sabbath-school is demanding the attention of all religious denominations now as never before. In the language of the General Assembly in 1874, "if the Presbyterian Church means to keep abreast of other churches, she must keep her Sunday-school interest in the foreground." The time has come when

this work must be pushed. The Church which enlists the children under Christ's banner, under the blessing of God will be the growing Church, the aggressive Church, the Church of the future. We have all the paraphernalia, all the resources needed, all the artillery and ammunition, but we need organization and leadership. This work belongs to the Board of Publication naturally. As already stated, seventy-five per cent. of its publications are directly in the line of Sabbath-schools. No other Board could successfully carry on this work. At present the Secretary of Sabbath-School Work has no connection, directly or indirectly, with the field organizers, the colporteurs. He is a general without an army, and the colporteurs, so far as they are Sabbath-school missionaries, are an army without a general. We think the true solution of the difficulties in the Board of Publication is to Sabbath-schoolize it in theory, as its business shows it to be Sabbath-schoolized in fact, but we would make it more efficient. While we do not underrate the importance of platform and institute work or normal-school organization for Sabbath-school purposes, back of this lies the organization and strengthening of Sabbath-schools themselves, and we think more systematic labor in this direction would show great results. The importance of presenting this great cause to the churches properly for their support cannot be overestimated. If the Church at large can be made to know that its contributions go directly to the establishment of Sabbath-schools, religious visitation, gratuitous distribution of Christian literature among the spiritually destitute, and, to use the language of the General Assembly in 1882, "that the selling of books, while still continued so far as it can be usefully done, is to be in all cases subordinated to these more directly benevolent and religious labors," we believe this Board will receive its heartiest support.

CONSOLIDATION THE TRUE REMEDY.

We believe these results can best be accomplished by the consolidation of the Sabbath-school and missionary or colportage work into one department and under the supervision of a "Superintendent of Sabbath-School and Missionary Work," and that he should have the control and direction of the colporteurs, and that they should report to him direct, subject, of course, to the limitations now regulating their appointment and work in their respective Presbyteries, and subject to the general supervision of the General Secretary and the Board.

The editorial and publishing work, including books and periodicals, should be placed in another department and be under the supervision and care of a "Superintendent of Editorial Work." The business interests of the Board should remain, as at present, in a separate department, and be under the control and supervisory care of a "Business Superintendent."

The Board should be composed of a sufficient number, from which three general Supervisory Committees could be appointed, to which these respective departments should be committed. In other words, the Committees of the Board should be a Sabbath-School and Missionary Committee, to which should be committed Sabbath-school and colportage work; an Editorial and Publishing Committee, to which should be committed the editorial and publishing work of both books and periodicals; a Business Committee, to which should be committed the business interests of the Board; and an Auditing Committee, to audit the bills and accounts of the respective departments.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

After the resignation of Dr. Schenck as Corresponding Secretary, the Board sought to render the Board more

efficient by unification as far as possible, and the establishment of one Secretary as the controlling executive officer of the Board, subject, of course, to the direction of the Board itself. It effected the change, and elected as General Secretary of the Board Rev. John W. Dulles, D. D., so long connected with it as Editorial Secretary, who conducted its operations since the resignation of Dr. Schenck, except when he was unable to do so from sickness, up to the time of his death. This Committee is of the opinion that this is a move in the right direction, and deem it highly important that, while the General Secretary should be the chief executive officer of the Board and supervise and control the management of all its departments, and the respective Superintendents should recognize his authority to the fullest extent, each Superintendent ought to have the right to an appeal to the Board from the General Secretary's decision in matters of importance where opinions may conflict; and until such appeal is decided the authority of the General Secretary shall be paramount.

MEMBERS NOT TO BE MEMBERS OF OTHER BOARDS.

As the interests committed to this Board are of great importance and demand careful attention, and as, of necessity, the time given to the business by its members must be limited to the time they can spare to it from their other duties and business, in consonance with the expressed opinion of the last General Assembly on the general subject, this Committee is of the opinion that members of this Board should be selected with a view to their special fitness for the work, and not be members of any other benevolent Board of the Church. Such a rule would be wise in regard to all the Boards of the Church, for the reason that it would enlist a greater number of earnest and efficient workers in the grand work for which these

Boards were constituted, and it would allow more time for the work to each member and afford an opportunity for a more thorough understanding and complete mastery of the work in its details by the respective members of each Board. Each member of any Board must, of necessity, become interested in its success, but where the allegiance is divided prominence will be given to the work of that one which preference would naturally indicate, and the work of other Boards will possibly be neglected. We think the Presbyterian Church amply large enough to furnish men to fill positions on all its Boards without calling on the same individuals to serve on more than one.

THE BOARD TOO LARGE.

We are of the opinion that the Board is too cumbersome and unwieldy, and that its membership should be reduced fully one-half; and, in order to prevent any question of favor to or undue influence of any individual church, there should not be elected to the Board more than two members—the pastor and one elder—from the same church.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS NOT TO BE MEMBERS.

We are also of the opinion that, while the heads of the respective departments should have the right to present their views and their work personally to the Board, and to be subject to its call for any information at any time, it is an unwise policy to permit the executive officers or employés of the Board to be members thereof with power to vote.

COMMITTEES OF PRESBYTERIES, ETC., CONSOLIDATED.

We also recommend that the Synodical and Presbyterial Committees on Publication and Sabbath-Schools be consolidated under the name of "Publication and Sabbath-

School Committee," so that the whole work may receive the undivided attention of efficient Committees in all Presbyteries, Synods and the General Assembly.

BOARD GIVEN EVENING AT ASSEMBLIES.

We also recommend that the evening of the second day of the meeting of the Assembly be devoted to the whole work of this Board rather than restricted to Sabbath-schools. By so doing the Board will be given a place of equality with the other Boards of the Church, and the advocates of its work be given an opportunity which they do not now enjoy of addressing popular meetings at the General Assembly. The subjects are so closely related that they can be considered jointly with profit. We think that a reorganization of this Board on the foregoing principles, and a strict obedience on the part of the Board to the General Assembly's requirements and directions as found in its deliverances, will result in pushing the Board to the front rank which it deserves by reason of the importance of its work, and, instead of being an object of criticism in the General Assembly, it will be one of the most favored organs in the grand work for the Master in which our beloved Church is engaged. In making these suggestions we have not considered men, but measures, believing that the interests of the cause are of far more importance than those of individuals.

RESOLUTIONS.

We therefore recommend the General Assembly to adopt the following resolutions:

1. The Presbyterian Board of Publication shall be hereafter designated and known as the "Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work," and shall consist of twenty-four members, of whom twelve shall be ministers and twelve ruling elders.

2. No one shall serve as a member of the said Board who is an executive officer or employé of said Board or a member of any other benevolent Board of the Church; and no more than one ruling elder from the same congregation shall serve on said Board at the same time.

3. This General Assembly shall elect as members of the Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work four ministers and four ruling elders who shall serve for one year, four ministers and four ruling elders who shall serve for two years, four ministers and four ruling elders who shall serve for three years, from the third Tuesday of June, 1887; and each succeeding General Assembly shall elect four ministers and four ruling elders to serve for three years thereafter. In case this recommendation is adopted by the General Assembly, we recommend that the Standing Committee on Publication be directed to nominate members of the Board herein provided for. Members of the Board thus elected shall meet for organization at the Publication House at Philadelphia on the third Tuesday of June, 1887; and when such organization shall have been effected, the membership of the Board as at present constituted shall terminate. For the purpose of effecting such organization, a majority of the members-elect shall constitute a quorum.

4. The annual collection heretofore taken up in the churches for the benefit of this Board shall hereafter be known as the collection for Sabbath-school Work, and be so designated in the Minutes of the Assembly.

5. The Sabbath-school and colportage work shall be consolidated in one department, subject to the supervision and control of an officer who shall be designated the "Superintendent of Sabbath-School and Missionary Work." The editorial work of the Board shall be organized in another department, under the supervisory control and care of an officer who shall be designated as the

“Editorial Superintendent.” The general business interests shall be organized into a Business Department, which shall be under the supervisory control of an officer who shall be designated the “Business Superintendent.” All these officers shall be appointed by and their duties defined by the Board, as may be directed in the By-laws.

6. Standing Committees shall be appointed or elected by the Board, to be known as the “Sabbath-School and Missionary Committee,” the “Editorial Committee” and the “Business Committee,” which shall have charge of their respective departments under such rules and regulations as the Board may by By-laws establish; provided that the Board shall have power to appoint any other Committee which shall be deemed necessary for the proper conduct of its business.

7. The present executive officers shall be continued in the following positions—to wit: ——* as Secretary; Rev. James A. Worden, D. D., as Superintendent of Sabbath-School and Missionary Work; Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D., as Editorial Superintendent; and John A. Black, Esq., as Business Superintendent—until their successors are appointed by the Board, each in charge of his own department, subject to such rules and regulations, with such powers, as the Board may from time to time prescribe through By-laws, in harmony with the general principles herein laid down.

8. The Board shall elect a Secretary of the Board, who shall be its chief executive officer, and shall have general supervisory control of all the officers herein named, subject to an appeal to the Board itself.

9. All By-laws of the Board now in force not in conflict with the principles herein laid down are hereby continued in force until altered, amended or repealed by the Board.

* NOTE.—In the report adopted by the Committee this blank was filled by the name of the Rev. John W. Dulles, D. D., now deceased.

All such as conflict with the principles herein stated are repealed.

10. The Board is directed to organize its work in accordance with the plans herein set forth on the third Tuesday of June, 1887, or as soon thereafter as possible, and to report its action to the next General Assembly.

11. This General Assembly directs the consolidation of the Presbyterian and Synodical Committees of Publication and Sabbath-School Work, to the end that this work, which has heretofore been under the supervision of two Committees, shall be committed to the care of one, and earnestly enjoins that in the appointment of such Committees care be taken to secure members who will actively enter into and push this great work.

12. That the standing orders of the General Assembly be so amended as to provide that the public meeting held on the second day of the Assembly's meeting shall be in the interests of the "Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE H. SHIELDS,	} <i>Committee.</i>
GEORGE P. HAYS,	
ELIJAH R. CRAVEN,	
E. C. RAY,	
FRANKLIN L. SHEPPARD,	
WILLIAM M. TENNEY,	

The General Assembly subsequently, by a unanimous vote, adopted the Report of its Standing Committee on Publication, of which the following recommendations formed a part:

1. That the Assembly is gratified by the success which has attended the Board's work during the past year amid

circumstances of difficulty and discouragement, and asks in behalf of this important arm of our Church a generous confidence and support.

2. That in the judicious extension of its business the Board be recommended to pursue the policy of occupying the commercial centres of the country, so far as it can be done without interfering with the business relations already established.

3. That the Board be encouraged to render its business profitable so far as a wise conservation of its work may permit, and that it be directed to place two-thirds of its net profits annually to the credit of the Sabbath-School and Missionary Department.

4. That in the work of the Sabbath-School and Missionary Department, as previously declared by the Assembly, the main emphasis is to be laid upon Sabbath-school Work and religious visitation among the spiritually destitute; and the selling of books, while still continued so far as it can be usefully done, is to be in all cases strictly subsidiary to these more directly benevolent and religious labors.

5. That as an expression of this policy the field-agents of this Board shall hereafter be designated "Sabbath-School Missionaries of the Board of Publication."

6. That, inasmuch as the extension of the Board's work herein contemplated requires the appointment of missionaries of high character and ability, their qualifications for the work should be judiciously weighed and their selection and appointment carefully made by the Board. No missionary of the Board shall labor within the bounds of a Presbytery except with the approval and under the supervision of the Presbytery or its appropriate committee.

7. That the Board be recommended to revise its statistical blanks in such a way as will more satisfactorily show

the nature and results of the work of its Sabbath-school missionaries.

8. That the Board be directed to arrange for the attendance of the Business Superintendent and the Superintendent of Sabbath-School and Missionary Work at sessions of the General Assembly, in order that they may furnish to the Assembly or to its Standing Committee such information as may be desirable concerning the interests committed to their charge.

9. That, in view of the enlarged scope and importance which the work of this Board is about to assume, not less than one hundred thousand dollars should be contributed to its use during the coming year, and that pastors and elders be requested to inform themselves more fully as to the needs and work of the Board, in order that special efforts be made by church Sessions to secure liberal gifts for this purpose.

10. That the plans of the Board for the observance of "Children's Day" be approved, and that Sabbath-schools be urged to adopt them so far as practicable, and to take up a collection on that day for the benefit of the Board.

In pursuance of the direction of the General Assembly to nominate members of the "Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work," the Standing Committee recommends the election of the following persons:

*To Serve for One Year from the Third Tuesday of
June, 1887.*

MINISTERS.

Rev. Wm. Brenton Greene, Jr.,
Rev. Loyal Young Graham, D. D.,
Rev. Wm. Dayton Roberts, D. D.,
Rev. Robert H. Fulton, D. D.,

ELDERS.

Edward P. Borden,
Archibald McIntyre,
William Wood,
William L. Du Bois.

To Serve for Two Years from that Date.

MINISTERS.

Rev. Charles A. Dickey, D. D.,
 Rev. Robert M. Patterson, D. D.,
 Rev. John S. Sands, D. D.,
 Rev. Charles Wood,

ELDERS.

Robert H. Hinckley,
 William L. Mactier,
 William Brockie,
 Charles H. Biles.

To Serve for Three Years from that Date.

Rev. William P. Breed, D. D.,	Samuel C. Perkins,
Rev. Henry C. McCook, D. D.,	George S. Graham,
Rev. Benjamin L. Agnew, D. D.,	John Scott,
Rev. Thomas A. Hoyt, D. D.,	Robert N. Willson.

The General Assembly also adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this General Assembly heartily approves of the action of the Board of Publication in electing the Rev. Elijah R. Craven, D. D., as Secretary of the Board, and expresses the hope that he may accept the appointment.

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be requested to take such legal steps as may be necessary to have the corporate name of the Trustees changed to correspond with the name of the Board as adopted by this Assembly.

THE NEW BOARD.

The members of the Board thus elected met for organization at the Publication House, June 21, 1887. The following officers were unanimously elected:

President.—Rev. William P. Breed, D. D.

Vice-President.—Hon. Robert N. Willson.

Secretary.—Rev. Elijah R. Craven, D. D.

Sabbath-School and Missionary Superintendent.—Rev. James A. Worden, D. D.

Editorial Superintendent.—Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

Business Superintendent.—John A. Black.

Recording Clerk.—Rev. Willard M. Rice, D. D.

Treasurer.—Samuel D. Powel.

Each of these officers, with the exception of the Secretary, had been long in the service of the Board. Dr. Craven, as already noticed, was elected General Secretary to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Rev. John W. Dulles, D. D., and the General Assembly of 1887 unanimously approved the choice. A member of the Joint Committee of Ten upon whose report the Board was organized at the Reunion in 1870, and of the Committee of Seven whose plan of reorganization was adopted by the Assembly of 1887, he was thoroughly acquainted with the history of the Board and in hearty sympathy with its work. For thirty-three years pastor of the Third Presbyterian Church of Newark, New Jersey, repeatedly a member of the General Assembly and its Moderator in 1885, and also chairman of the Committee on the Revision of the Book of Discipline, he was well known throughout the Church, and his election gave universal satisfaction.

Mr. Powel departed this life August 24, 1887, and October 6 the Rev. Charles T. McMullin was elected as his successor.

The work of the Board was at once arranged in the three departments directed by the General Assembly—namely, the Sabbath-School and Missionary, the

Editorial and the Business—and Committees on all these departments were appointed. A code of By-laws was as speedily as possible prepared and adopted, in accordance with the plans set forth in the Report of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

I. THE SABBATH-SCHOOL AND MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

In this department are consolidated two departments that existed previous to the reorganization of the Board by the General Assembly of 1887—namely, the Sabbath-School and the Missionary (or Colportage) departments. Its functions are four :

1. *The appointment and superintendence of the Sabbath-school missionaries.* This, in view of the special work assigned to these missionaries and the superior qualifications demanded of them by the reorganizing act, is a most delicate and important task.

The Assembly declared that the effective prosecution of the work contemplated required the appointment of missionaries of high character and ability. In carrying out this instruction the Board notified all the colporteurs in its employ that their services would be dispensed with on the expiration of their existing commission, reserving to itself, however, the right of recommissioning any whom it might select. In view of the great debt resting upon the Missionary Fund at the beginning of the fiscal year, the Board proceeded slowly in the appointment of missionaries. Where important interests are involved, it is far better to lay deep and solid foundations than to strive after imme-

ciate results. Encouraged by the large increase in contributions, the Board gradually increased the number of missionaries, until now (1889) there are thirty-four in various parts of the field, all doing active and efficient service in the cause. Fifty-six students of the junior classes of our Theological Seminaries were commissioned as missionaries during the long summer vacation of 1888. It was found that blessed results, both to the young men themselves and to the missionary work of the Church, followed these appointments. The Board was so well satisfied with the success of these student-missionaries that it commissioned and sent out more than seventy junior students for the summer of 1889.

2. A second function of this department is *the distribution of the Board's literature by grants and missionary sales*. Great care is exercised in making grants to churches and schools lest they should be injured by receiving aid before having done all in their power to purchase their own supplies. None are refused when there is reason to believe they have taxed themselves to the extent of their ability or that they are totally unable to purchase. The Sabbath-school missionaries are instructed to sell, not for any business considerations, but to make their sales subsidiary to their more distinctively religious and Sabbath-school work.

3. Another function of this department is *the elevation and improvement of the Sabbath-school Work of our Church*. The effort is made to accomplish this result by various modes, the principal of which are:

(1) Visits by the Superintendent to particular schools and to Presbyterial and Synodical institutes and conventions. Though the chief portion of the time of the Superintendent is engrossed by office-work, he has also devoted no little labor to these field-duties, delivering addresses and lectures, presenting practical methods of Sabbath-school work, and inciting to more diligent study of standard works of the Scriptures.

(2) Missionary letters to contributing schools. Each Sabbath-school that sends to the Board a contribution is assigned as a part-support to some missionary, from whom it receives a quarterly letter. Nearly one-half of our Sabbath-schools are now (1889) in the receipt of such letters. This arrangement has been productive of most excellent results in increasing the knowledge of our scholars concerning missionary work, and in exciting an active interest therein.

(3) Prize Bibles for reciting the Shorter Catechism. During the latter part of 1887 the Board offered such a prize to every one of the youth of our churches and Sabbath-schools who should be certified as having committed to memory and recited correctly the Catechism during the year ending December 1, 1887. Subsequently the offer was renewed, and it is still in force. The responses have been so prompt and numerous as to manifest that there has been a revival of the study of the Catechism throughout the Church. On the thirty-first day of March, 1889, three thousand one hundred and five responses had been received, and the same number of Bibles awarded. These have been given not only in English, but also in German,

French, Spanish and Chinese, and in one of the dialects of India.

(4) The fourth function of this department is *the collection and presentation of Sabbath-school statistics to the General Assembly*. The department has prosecuted this work with great earnestness and with very gratifying results. For several years past a summary of these statistics has been published in the Appendix to the Assembly's Minutes.

All matters pertaining to Sabbath-school literature—the preparation and issue of books for the Library, of lesson helps and periodicals—continue, as before the reorganization, under the charge and supervision of the Editorial Department.

CHILDREN'S DAY.

This yearly festival of our Sabbath-schools has become an established institution of our Church. It was celebrated on the second Sabbath of June, 1887, 1888 and 1889 as never before. Copies of the Children's Day exercises were sent free, in sufficient numbers for use, to all Presbyterian Sabbath-schools applying for them, together with envelopes for the contributions of scholars. The contributions to the Missionary Fund in 1887 were on a liberal scale, and helped not only to extinguish the large indebtedness with which it was then burdened, but also to send out an increased number of Sabbath-school missionaries. Nor was there any falling off in the liberality of the schools in 1888 and 1889, but rather an increase.

FRUITS OF THE WORK.

At the end of the Board's fiscal year, March 31, 1889, the number of permanent missionaries in commission was 34. At the same date the number of Sabbath-schools established since the reorganization of the Board was 1021; number of scholars gathered into these schools, 32,427; number of volumes distributed, 76,104; pages of tracts and periodicals distributed, 10,944,478; number of Bibles given for reciting the Shorter Catechism, 3105.

Sabbath-school mission-work is one of the most economical and effective means of evangelizing the unreached millions in the land. The quickest and cheapest way to build up churches in new or godless districts is to establish mission Sabbath-schools. Already several churches have grown out of the schools reported above, and there is a fair prospect that many more will at no distant day be organized. There are hundreds of our churches—and among them some of the strongest—that trace back their origin to such schools. The Church that now gathers the children will be the Church of the future. The blessing of Christ will rest upon those who care for the little ones. The Board is fully impressed with the importance of this department of its work, and will in the future, as in the past, prosecute it to the extent of the ability given it by the Church.

II. THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

This department has charge of all the publications

of the Board, so far as their subject-matter is concerned. It has three functions:

1. It selects from the mass of manuscripts that are offered for books, tracts and leaflets those that, in its judgment, it will be proper to publish.

2. It prepares by the pens of its editorial staff and by selection from offered articles the various lesson helps and periodicals that are sent forth for the assistance of the Sabbath-school teachers and the instruction of the scholars of the Church.

3. It prepares for the press and looks after the typographical correctness of all that it determines to publish. There are few manuscripts that are offered for publication, however excellent may be their matter, that do not need amendment, trimming and pruning, and sometimes amplification. This work must be carefully performed by the Editorial Superintendent personally or by experts under his direction and supervision. But the work is not yet completed. Even after the manuscripts have been most carefully prepared and the type has been set by the most skillful compositors (the Board does not, and will not from any ideas of false economy, employ any but skillful workmen), errors will be found in the print which require for their correction most careful proofreading.

Since the reorganization of the Board the work of this department has been increasingly arduous. A very large number of manuscripts have been examined, the great majority of which have been declined. Not a little editorial labor has been expended upon those that have been approved and published. During the

two years ending March 31, 1889, there were added to the Catalogue the titles of sixty-five publications, of which forty-five were bound volumes. Meanwhile, ten lesson helps and illustrated periodicals have been edited and regularly issued, to which the Editorial Superintendent has contributed a large amount of valuable original matter. No change has been made in the form of any of the periodicals, nor have any new ones been added to the number. The effort has been to elevate their tone and character, and thus to give them a higher moral and intellectual value. Their constantly-increasing circulation would indicate that these efforts have not been unsuccessful. It is believed that not one of these periodical issues could be dropped from the list without serious loss to our Sabbath-schools and to the Church.

It is impossible to calculate the value of the work done on these various books, tracts, lesson helps and periodicals, or their influence as they go out with their pure, bright and helpful pages, bearing holy, helpful thoughts and teachings. It cannot but be that vast good is accomplished by their ministry, the results of which can never be known in this life.

III. BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

No change was made in this department at the re-organization of the Board. It has three functions:

1. It has charge of all the property of the Board. It cares for the Publication House—its repair, its lighting and heating, and the renting of such of its rooms as are not required for the use of the Board.

2. It has charge of the mechanical part of publication. The Board does not manufacture its own paper, nor does it execute its own printing, stereotyping or binding. Very early in the history of the publication work of both branches of the divided Church the question of such manufacture was carefully considered by able and experienced men then in charge of these interests, and the present policy was unanimously decided upon. At the Reunion the question again came up, and the same decision was again reached. The Joint Committee of Ten, in its Report to the General Assembly of the reunited Church in 1870, gave expression to its opinion thus: "It is not, in our view, essential that large sums be invested in the machinery of publication, such as presses and binderies. The use of this machinery can be commanded without purchase." The question has been repeatedly mooted since, but the Board has adhered to its long-established policy. The Business Department purchases all the paper used in the manufacture of books and periodicals, and it makes contracts for printing, stereotyping and binding.

In addition to printing the publications of the Board, this Department also prints *The Church at Home and Abroad*, for the preparation of the matter of which the Board is not responsible.

3. It places the publications upon the market. This is done by advertising in the leading papers of our own and sister denominations, and through the agency of the home depository in Philadelphia and of twenty-three branch houses and depositories, nineteen of which

are in this country and four in Great Britain and Canada. This plan was adopted by the Board after careful consideration. It has again and again been reported to the General Assembly, and has always met with the unqualified approbation of that body.

In relation to both books and periodicals, the Sabbath-school missionaries exercise an important influence in bringing them to the notice of those who dwell in the sparsely-settled sections of the land.

REDUCTION OF PRICE.

Since the reorganization the price of all the octavo publications of the Board, with the exception of the *Digest*, has been reduced to one dollar and twenty-five cents per volume net, and postage. Among the volumes thus reduced in price are some of the most valuable publications of the Board. It is probable that no set of books of like value is now offered to the reading community at so fair a price; and we may here say that careful examination and comparison, repeatedly and extensively made, shows that the publications of the Board, as a whole, compare favorably, both in quality of manufacture and in price, with those of any of our publishing houses.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

We have already noted that the Descriptive Catalogue issued by the Board soon after the Reunion contained the titles of two thousand two hundred and eighty separate publications. From year to year valuable additions of books and tracts were made to it,

especially in the department of Sabbath-school literature, increasing the sum total of publications to two thousand nine hundred and fifteen. Continued caution and vigilance was exercised, lest at any time its press should send forth publications casting the slightest doubts upon the divine authority and plenary inspiration of the Bible, or upon the divinity and atoning death of our Lord Jesus Christ, or upon the fact of man's utter ruin by sin and his absolute need of redemption through the blood shed upon the cross, or in any particular at variance with the Standards of our Church. We believe that the publications of the Board will bear the closest scrutiny in these respects. In literary style, in their adaptation to the wants of the times, and in their treatment of living topics of the day, they are, to say the least, fully equal to the issues of any of the publication houses, whether religious or secular, in our country.

CAPITAL STOCK.

This at the Reunion in 1870 amounted to \$417,282.18; it is, as reported March 31, 1889, \$504,250.36.

To some it may seem that in proportion to so large an amount of capital the business annually transacted has been contracted and the net profits small.

In reference to the amount of capital, it may be said that much of what is so reported is unproductive. It consists of books in the library; of stereotype plates of books for which there is very little demand; of printed sheets of books and tracts that cannot in any considerable degree be placed at once upon the market;

of investments in periodicals that have not yet reached a paying basis; and also of real estate. The reported value of the Publication House is upward of one hundred and fifty-two thousand dollars. From portions of this house not used by the Board a large rent would naturally be expected by those not acquainted with the facts. In compliance, however, with the well-known wish and intent of the donors, offices free of charge are granted to the different Boards of the Church located in Philadelphia. The rent value of these rooms, together with their heating and care, cannot be less than eight thousand dollars per annum. In reference to such rooms—the value of which is included in its capital—the Board acts as a trustee in the interests of the benevolent operations of the Church at large.

As to the matter of profits, it should be remembered that the object for which the Board was established was not the making of money, but the production of religious literature and its distribution at the lowest remunerative rates. It may also be said that the Board, by the very nature of its work, is precluded from the publication of those classes of books which are most generally salable and on which the largest profits are made, and, still further, that many of its publications which are of exceeding value to the Church, and especially to the ministry, yield little or no profit, and some of them are published at a loss.

Probably the active capital of the Board does not exceed two hundred thousand dollars, and even this amount, in view of the necessary line of the Board's operations, cannot be used for the accretion of profits

with aught approaching the power with which it might be employed by an ordinary business publisher.

DEATH OF THE REV. W. P. BREED, D. D., PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD.

Just as the preceding pages were ready for the press the Board met with a severe loss in the death of its President, the Rev. William P. Breed, D. D., Pastor Emeritus of the West Spruce Street Church, Philadelphia, which occurred February 14, 1889.

Dr. Breed was elected a member of the Board by the General Assembly of 1855. In 1874 he became one of its Vice-Presidents, and in 1875 he was elected President—an office which he continued to hold until his death.

Dr. Breed was during these thirty-four years one of the most active and efficient members of the Board, seldom absent from its meetings, always and everywhere its warm-hearted and able advocate. At a special meeting, held February 16, the Board unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to prepare a Minute expressive of the views of the Board in reference to the death of its President, the Rev. W. P. Breed, D. D., to report at the next meeting of the Board.

Resolved, That as a testimonial of respect for his memory the store be closed during the funeral services on Monday from ten to one o'clock, and that the members, officers and employés of the Board attend the funeral services.

Resolved, That in further respect to his memory the office of President be kept vacant until the coming annual

meeting of the Board, the Vice-President in the mean time acting as President *pro tem*.

At the Stated Meeting of the Board, February 26, the Committee presented the following Minute, which was unanimously adopted :

This Board deeply laments the removal by death of its late President, Rev. William P. Breed, D. D. His long experience in the cause of publication and missionary distribution of religious literature, both before and after the Reunion of our Church, well fitted him for the leadership of the body to which that cause was entrusted. For many years he has stood at our head, a warm, earnest and intelligent champion of the work of this Board. None of us could excel him in devotion to its interests; few, if any, gave so much of thought and prayer for its prosperity. His voice was often raised in its behalf, and his pen put into language many a vigorous appeal for its support.

As an example to follow, and as a stimulus to incite, we shall greatly miss his life among us.

His presence and companionship were a benediction. Strong and vigorous, with manly qualities, moved by profound convictions, earnest and bold in his adherence to what he believed to be truth and duty, he was, also, a tender, gentle, courteous, considerate Christian man whom none knew but to love and revere.

We have no memories of him which are not fragrant with pleasant thoughts and helpful suggestions toward a better life.

We lay him away from sight, therefore, not to pass out of memory, but ever to be remembered as one of the best of friends and the wisest of counselors, as well as a beautiful type of a Christian man and minister.

APPENDIX.

CHARTER OF THE BOARD.

An Act to Incorporate "The Trustees of the Presbyterian Board of Publication."

Whereas, The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America have a Board of Publication, composed of ministers and laymen of the Presbyterian Church, the design of which is "the publication of such works, permanent or periodical, as are adapted to promote sound learning and true religion ;"

And Whereas, The aforesaid Board of Publication labors under serious disadvantages as to receiving donations and bequests, and as to the management of funds intrusted to them for the purpose designated in their Constitution, and in accordance with the benevolent intentions of those from whom such bequests and donations are received; Therefore,

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That Matthew Newkirk, James N. Dickson, William S. Martien, James B. Ross, Archibald McIntyre, Joseph B. Mitchell, Alexander W. Mitchell,

M. D., Robert Soutter, Jr., and James Dunlap, citizens of the United States, and of this Commonwealth, and their successors, are hereby constituted and declared to be a body politic and corporate, which shall henceforth be known by the name of "The Trustees of the Presbyterian Board of Publication,"* and as such shall have perpetual succession, and be able to sue and be sued in all courts of record, and elsewhere; and to purchase and receive, take and hold, to them and their successors, for ever, lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods, money, and chattels, and all kinds of estate which may be devised, or bequeathed, or given to them; and the same to sell, alien, demise, and convey; also to make a common seal, and the same to alter and renew at their pleasure; and also to make such rules, by-laws, and ordinances, as may be needful for the government of the said corporation, and not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States, and of this State: *Provided, always,* That the clear yearly income of the real estate held by the said corporation shall not at any time exceed the sum of five thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. The Trustees above named shall hold their offices for one year from the date of this incorporation, and until their successors are duly qualified to take their places; who shall be chosen by the aforesaid Board of Publication, at such times and in such manner as shall be provided by the said General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, provided not more than one-third of the Trustees shall be removed in any one year.

SEC. 3. The Trustees hereby incorporated, and their successors, shall (subject to the direction of the said Board

* Title amended by decree of Court of Common Pleas (No. 1) of Philadelphia, November 19, 1887, to "The Trustees of the Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work."

of Publication) have full power to manage the funds and property committed to their care, in such manner as shall be deemed most advantageous, and not contrary to law.

JAMES COOPER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CH. GIBBONS,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved the thirteenth day of February, one thousand
eight hundred and forty-seven.

FR. R. SHUNK.

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

CASH RECEIPTS.

Year.	Sales.	Colporteur Fund.	Distribution Fund.
1839			
1840.....	\$982 74		
1841.....	11,350 89		
1842.....	15,335 91		
1843.....	12,050 34		
1844.....	27,540 07	\$1,815 14
1845.....	33,711 97	1,071 43
1846.....	28,205 85	1,031 58
1847.....	29,283 58	\$1,021 00	817 36
1848.....	34,371 37	1,314 07	1,147 13
1849.....	23,527 99	1,380 05	1,250 00
1850.....	38,454 29	6,212 94	725 00
1851.....	58,644 21	9,658 69	632 50
1852.....	62,551 31	15,291 87	1,879 69
1853.....	75,005 55	12,188 01	1,723 00
1854.....	83,759 44	15,866 27	1,413 75
1855.....	70,654 63	14,015 54	603 08
1856.....	70,502 28	14,497 28	1,762 89
1857.....	92,867 22	24,823 62	414 11
1858.....	85,573 45	21,369 76	164 46
1859.....	81,881 45	24,817 00	1,144 92
1860.....	93,581 72	27,758 39	1,609 77
1861.....	93,054 65	28,433 07	2,406 46
1862.....	40,371 96	23,171 81	2,624 05
1863.....	50,887 82	25,078 35	4,104 13
1864.....	63,081 49	28,508 29	5,017 28
1865.....	83,889 30	33,815 93	6,620 40
1866.....	97,605 11	26,735 72	3,167 27
1867.....	113,907 84	28,760 19	1,685 17
1868.....	116,272 02	29,005 95	2,157 73
1869.....	113,371 50	32,088 88	
1870.....	108,341 71	36,557 01	
	\$1,915,619 66	\$482,369 69 46,988 30	\$46,988 30
		\$529,357 99	

PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

Year.	Cash for Sales.	Grants of Books and Tracts.
1855.....	\$740 50	
1856.....	2,258 80	
1857.....	4,302 14	
1858.....	3,705 80	
1859.....	10,873 99	\$263 74
1860.....	10,942 95	287 91
1861.....	11,384 30	1,159 50
1862.....	9,296 08	936 64
1863.....	12,221 83	1,221 83
1864.....	17,946 83	1,660 23
1865.....	30,005 91	2,260 16
1866.....	27,578 03	4,299 27
1867.....	37,165 10	5,500 95
1868.....	43,666 82	5,638 86
1869.....	38,010 18	6,851 59
1870.....	43,693 21	8,880 28
	\$303,792 47	\$38,960 96

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

CASH RECEIPTS.

Year.	Sales.	Colportage Fund.
1871.....	\$139,539 40	\$37,919 39
1872.....	164,431 82	49,851 82
1873.....	157,577 78	55,892 16
1874.....	172,524 30	47,798 48
1875.....	241,065 44	45,026 83
1876.....	229,690 81	52,176 06
1877.....	195,023 35	42,638 34
1878.....	154,753 06	43,816 30
1879.....	145,825 89	44,867 37
1880.....	151,577 27	39,232 73
1881.....	161,324 53	47,282 30
1882.....	180,502 62	55,558 93
1883.....	195,420 02	49,983 04
1884.....	199,950 58	59,152 07
1885.....	217,368 19	68,817 76
1886.....	215,142 89	50,894 64
1887.....	206,636 87	49,751 29
	\$3,128,359 82	\$840,659 51

BOARD OF PUBLICATION AND SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.

Year.	Sales.	Sabbath-School Work.
1888.....	\$217,588 13	\$73,381 68
1889.....	230,236 68	100,024 98
	\$447,824 81	\$173,406 66

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

COLPORTEUR WORK.

Year.	No. of Colporteurs.	Vols. Sold.	Vols. Given.	Pages of Tracts Distributed.
1849.....	20			
1850.....	63			
1851.....	125	58,492	5,525	528,154
1852.....	141	71,150	5,506	581,956
1853.....	145	87,938	9,386	925,172
1854.....	151	91,885	9,581	871,547
1855.....	173	97,853	10,780	1,046,964
1856.....	210	105,319	13,544	1,039,056
1857.....	254	124,579	14,802	2,140,379
1858.....	263	123,924	17,905	1,555,469
1859.....	143	92,068	11,184	1,217,573
1860.....	202	124,638	14,920	2,162,594
1861.....	242	154,522	23,733	2,372,016
1862.....	150	73,318	44,311	3,275,825
1863.....	102	43,947	72,299	2,399,030
1864.....	90	52,411	33,857	1,623,063
1865.....	126	53,106	84,989	2,669,713
1866.....	129	59,246	72,505	1,892,102
1867.....	145	70,905	45,995	1,043,180
1868.....	146	66,177	36,721	996,653
1869.....	155	62,206	46,978	1,931,491
1870.....	156	49,632	63,698	2,733,193
		1,663,316	638,219	33,005,130

GRANTS BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Years.	Volumes Given.	Pages of Tracts and Periodicals.
1839-1847.....	10,000	
1848-1850.....	5,786	414,741
1851.....	4,524	250,000
1852.....	5,092	175,190
1853.....	4,890	246,337
1854.....	6,517	381,032
1855.....	6,365	342,662
1856.....	3,269	111,873
Carried forward..	46,443	1,921,835

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.
GRANTS BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Continued).

Year.	Volumes Given.	Pages of Tracts and Periodicals.
Brought forward.	46,443	1,921,835
1857.....	3,951	162,582
1858.....	3,724	246,395
1859.....	5,345	347,138
1860.....	6,101	413,222
1861.....	5,683	263,068
1862.....	19,329	462,326
1863.....	26,950	683,968
1864.....	49,423	566,782
1865.....	24,688	382,653
1866.....	21,476	225,831
1867.....	14,697	169,054
1868.....	16,255	213,195
1869 } 1870 }	{ Included in Col- porteur Report.	Included in Col- porteur Report.
	244,065	6,058,049

COLPORTAGE WORK.

Year.	No. of Colporteurs.	Vols. Sold.	Vols. Given.	Pages of Tracts and Periodicals Given.	Sabbath-Schools Organized.
1871....	129	38,179	50,595	3,166,232	
1872....	156	60,029	71,864	3,598,331	
1873....	158	69,483	54,093	3,371,106	
1874....	136	71,196	73,971	3,132,433	76
1875....	126	72,737	68,271	4,282,899	126
1876....	109	72,904	46,724	4,136,412	96
1877....	98	67,441	39,033	4,274,813	101
1878....	66	61,700	29,445	4,460,991	76
1879....	70	68,160	27,535	4,637,626	90
1880....	65	73,979	29,332	6,242,713	111
1881....	53	71,396	25,057	4,652,774	88
1882....	54	44,948	21,876	4,008,838	78
1883. .	49	32,139	33,326	3,822,800	72
1884....	84	34,932	73,767	6,692,882	151
1885....	107	58,888	112,453	9,768,369	270
1886....	89	52,344	78,055	7,143,060	167
1887....	51	22,941	33,166	3,984,419	59
		973,396	868,563	81,376,698	1,561

BOARD OF PUBLICATION AND S. S. WORK.

MISSIONARY WORK.

Year	Volumes Sold.	Volumes Given.	Bibles and Testaments Given.	Periodicals and Tracts Given.	Sabbath-Schools Organized.
1888..	10,074	13,033	606	1,051,126	73
1889..	5,500	47,125	2,707	8,004,325	948
	15,574	60,158	3,313	9,055,451	1,021

GENERAL SUMMARY.

	Sales.	Colportage and Missionary Fund.
Board of Publication, 1839-1870.....	\$1,915,619 66	\$529,357 99
Publication Committee, 1855-1870.....	303,792 47	38,960 96
Board of Publication, 1870-1887.....	3,128,359 82	840,659 51
Board of Publication and S. S. Work, 1888, 1889	447,824 81	173,406 66
	\$5,795,596 76	\$1,582,385 12

COLPORTAGE AND MISSIONARY WORK.

	Vols. Sold.	Vols. Given.	Pages of Tracts and Periodicals Given.	Sabbath-Schools Organized
Board of Publication, 1849-1870	1,663,316	638,219	33,005,130	
Grants by Ex. Committee, 1839-1868		246,065	6,058,049	
Board of Pub., 1871-1887.....	973,396	868,563	81,376,698	1 561
Board of Pub. and S. S. Work, 1888, 1889.....	15,574	63,471	9,055,451	1,021
	2,652,286	1,814,318	129,495,328	2,582



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I. BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

1838—1870.

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Alexander T. McGill, D. D.,	1867-1870

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Alexander Symington,	1839-1852
Alexander W. Mitchell, M. D.,	1852-1862
Joseph B. Mitchell,	1862-1863
Hon. George Sharswood, LL.D.,	1862-1863
James Russell,	1862-1870
Rev. William M. Engles,	1863-1865
James Dunlap,	1863-1865
Daniel L. Collier,	1865-1869
Rev. George Junkin, D. D.,	1865-1868
Rev. Matthew B. Grier, D. D.,	1868-1870
Morris Patterson,	1869-1870

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James Dunlap,	1856-1863
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Rev. William E. Schenck, D. D.,	1863-1870

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Rev. John Leyburn, D. D.,	1848-1852
Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D.,	1852-1853
Rev. B. M. Smith, D. D.,	1853-1854
Rev. William E. Schenck, D. D.,	1854-1870

Recording Secretary.

Rev. Joseph H. Jones, D. D.,	1838-1862
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Recording Clerk.

Rev. Willard M. Rice, D. D.,	1862-1870
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Publishing Agents.

William S. Martien,	1838-1840
James Russell,	1840-1842
Paul T. Jones,	1842-1844
Joseph P. Engles,	1845-1861

Superintendent of Colportage.

Winthrop Sargent,	1854-1870
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Superintendent of Colportage and Business Correspondent.

Winthrop Sargent,	1861-1870
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Superintendent of Depository.

John A. Black,*	1855-1870
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Publisher of Periodicals.

Peter Walker,	1863-1870
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* Mr. Black entered the service of the Board in its Depository, June, 1840.

MEMBERS.

Ministers.

Archibald Alexander, D. D.,	1838-1851
James W. Alexander, D. D.,	1847-1857
William Alexander, D. D.,	1869-1870
S. P. J. Anderson, D. D.,	1851-1866
John C. Backus, D. D.,	1840-1870
William Bannard, D. D.,	1857-1870
Charles C. Beatty, D. D.,	1838-1855
John L. Belville,	1838-1839
R. T. Berry,	1847-1863
Andrew M. Beveridge,	1864-1870
William M. Blackburn, D. D.,	1864-1870
William Blackwood, D. D.,	1851-1867
William Blair,	1838-1839
John Breckenridge, D. D.,	1840-1841
Robert J. Breckenridge, D. D.,	1838-1870
William L. Breckenridge, D. D.,	1838-1870
Henry A. Boardman, D. D.	1838-1864
William P. Breed, D. D.,	1855-1870
N. C. Burt,	1838-1839
David R. Campbell,	1864-1870
John N. Campbell, D. D.,	1838-1864
William C. Cattell, D. D.,	1863-1870
John Chester, D. D.,	1869-1870
William Chester, D. D.,	1847-1860
John H. Church, D. D.,	1838-1841
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Nathaniel W. Conkling, D. D.,	1863-1870
James M. Crowell, D. D.,	1857-1870
James Culbertson,	1838-1847
Cornelius C. Cuyler, D. D.,	1838-1851
Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D.,	1851-1857
David A. Cunningham, D. D.,	1867-1870

Members.

J. Leroy Davies,	1838-1844
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Cyrus Dickson, D. D.,	1857-1870
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David Elliott, D. D.,	1838-1870
William M. Engles, D. D.,	1838-1867
Daniel Gaston,	1862-1865
Abraham Gosman, D. D.,	1866-1870
John Gray, D. D.,	1838-1868
Ashbel Green, D. D.,	1838-1847
William Henry Green, D. D.,	1864-1870
J. A. Gretter,	1849-1853
P. D. Gurley, D. D.,	1866-1869
George Hale, D. D.,	1858-1870
John Hall, D. D., Trenton, N. J.,	{ 1842-1857
	{ 1863-1864
John Hall, D. D., New York,	1868-1870
William T. Hamilton, D. D.,	1840-1854
F. R. Harbaugh,	1862-1870
N. H. Harding, D. D.,	1842-1849
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R. W. Henry, D. D.,	1862-1870
James Hoge, D. D.,	1838-1864
W. J. Hoge, D. D.,	1860-1864
William H. Hornblower, D. D.,	1860-1870
James W. Hoyt,	1860-1863
E. P. Humphrey, D. D.,	1851-1870
Charles K. Imbrie, D. D.	1861-1870
J. J. Janeway, D. D.,	1840-1858
Thomas L. Janeway, D. D.,	1841-1851
Charles C. Jones, D. D.,	1839-1851
Joseph H. Jones, D. D.,	1838-1869
George Junkin, D. D.,	1862-1869

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William Loughridge,	1842-1847
John M. Lowrie, D. D.,	1863-1866
Alexander Maclin, D. D.,	1840-1860
John McDowell, D. D.,	1840-1863
Alexander T. McGill, D. D.,	1849-1870
J. L. McKee, D. D.,	1867-1870
James W. McKennan,	1838-1861
William E. McLaren.	1867-1870
G. W. McPhail, D. D.,	1860-1866
William M. McPheeters, D. D.,	1833-1842
William C. Matthews, D. D.,	1838-1870
John Miller,	1850-1857
Samuel Miller, D. D.,	1838-1850
Joshua Moore,	1838-1855
James Morrison,	1838-1865
Robert M. Morrison, D. D.,	1844-1864
Philip H. Mowry, D. D.,	1863-1867
Nicholas Murray, D. D.,	1838-1857
George W. Musgrave, D. D.,	1838-1857
Alfred Nevin, D. D.,	1858-1866
J. Howard Nixon, D. D.,	1864-1870
S. M. Osmond, D. D.,	1869-1870
Roger Owen, D. D.,	1869-1870
William M. Paxton, D. D.,	1866-1870
William W. Phillips, D. D.,	1838-1865
William S. Plumer, D. D.,	1838-1863
George Potts, D. D.,	1838-1861

Members.

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G. Wendell Prime, D. D.,	1864-1867
J. Grier Ralston, D. D.,	1863-1870
Alexander Reed, D. D.,	1865-1870
Nathan L. Rice, D. D.,	1860-1870
Willard M. Rice, D. D.,	1860-1870
R. W. Richardson, D. D.	1867-1870
William C. Roberts, D. D.,	1862-1870
Stuart Robinson, D. D.	1851-1866
J. E. Rockwell, D. D.,	1857-1870
Robert F. Sample, D. D.,	1868-1870
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William B. Sprague, D. D.,	1840-1870
Gardner Spring, D. D.,	1840-1860
J. O. Stedman, D. D.,	1858-1861
William K. Stewart,	1838-1854
Charles Stillman,	1858-1861
Morris C. Sutphen, D. D.,	1863-1870
Andrew Todd,	1838-1851
Archibald Tudehope,	1840-1852
Henry J. Van Dyke, D. D.	1857-1863
C. Van Rensselaer, D. D.,	1848-1852
James C. Watson, D. D.,	1859-1870
Ansley D. White,	1869-1870
William S. White, D. D.,	1852-1864
H. R. Wilson, D. D.,	1841-1849
Joshua L. Wilson, D. D.,	1838-1847

Ministers.

S. B. Wilson, D. D.,	1838-1862
S. R. Wilson, D. D.,	1847-1866
S. G. Winchester,	1838-1841
John Witherspoon, D. D.,	1838-1850
Thomas S. Witherspoon,	1838-1840
Edward W. Wright, D. D.,	1864-1867
John W. Yeomans, D. D.,	1840-1864

Laymen and Elders.

Solomon Allen,	1838-1846
Stephen Alexander, LL.D.,	1859-1870
Hugh Auchincloss,	1838-1856
Micah Baldwin,	1844-1845
Richard Barnett,	1858-1862
Abijah Bayless,	1838-1847
Aaron B. Belknap,	1862-1870
Gustavus S. Benson,	1867-1870
Joseph Biggar,	1838-1840
Henry C. Blair,	1845-1863
Peter Boyd,	1842-1857
William S. Boyd,	1869-1870
Corbin Braxton,	1851-1852
Robert H. Burton,	1838-1840
Henry L. Butler,	1867-1870
W. W. Caldwell,	1867-1869
D. C. Campbell,	1838-1863
Hovey K. Clark,	1867-1870
Charles Collins,	1840-1850
Daniel L. Collier,	1862-1869
Gilbert Combs,	1864-1870
David Comfort,	1862-1864
A. B. Conger,	1863-1869
Robert Cornelius,	1868-1870
T. Craig,	1842-1850

Laymen and Elders.

Harmer Denny,	1838-1852
James N. Dickson,	1840-1867
George Douglass,	1841-1857
Charles D. Drake,	1869-1870
William E. DuBois,	1848-1858
William Dulty,	1840-1853
Charles B. Dungan,	1850-1862
James Dunlap,	1841-1866
Thomas B. Dwight,	1863-1866
William Elmer,	1869-1870
Joseph P. Engles,	1839-1861
F. A. Ewing,	1842-1858
Hon. Nathaniel Ewing,	1838-1859
B. A. Fahnestock,	1850-1862
George W. Fahnestock,	1863-1869
George W. Farrington,	1858-1869
Ebenezer Flinn,	1838-1840
Thomas Foote,	1847-1870
S. Franklin,	1839-1851
Thomas Franklin,	1838-1840
E. B. Fuller,	1861-1870
Samuel Galloway,	1866-1870
John E. Gould,	1860-1863
David Hadden,	1853-1865
J. Hall,	1839-1842
William R. Hanson,	1840-1858
John M. Harper,	1867-1868
Fulton W. Hastings,	1866-1870
John Hemphill,	1840-1842
Thomas Henderson,	1838-1864
Alexander Henry,	1840-1848
Joseph Henry, LL.D.,	1858-1870
T. Charlton Henry,	1866-1870
Silas Holmes,	1852-1860

Laymen and Elders.

H. Lenox Hodge, M. D.,	1869-1870
James Imbrie,	1853-1866
William A. Ingham,	1861-1867
Edwin S. Jaffray,	1860-1870
Robert Jaffray,	1838-1846
Barton H. Jenks,	1866-1870
William Jamison,	1864-1867
John Taylor Johnson,	1869-1870
James Johnson,	1838-1852
Joel Jones, LL.D.,	1840-1860
Paul T. Jones,	{ 1840-1841
	{ 1850-1853
George Junkin, Jr.,	1858-1870
Victor King,	1838-1864
Strickland Kneass,	1861-1870
Hon. H. H. Leavitt,	1838-1870
Samuel A. Lewis,	1857-1858
William T. Lewis,	1866-1870
Theodore Little,	1863-1870
James Lenox,	1838-1870
Charles Macalester,	1853-1860
Archibald McClure,	1858-1870
John D. McCord,	1869-1870
Robert H. McEwen,	1838-1853
Archibald McIntyre,	1840-1870
Henry McKeen,	1840-1870
Thomas McKeen,	1838-1859
Hon. Robert McKnight,	1868-1870
R. H. McNair,	1841-1850
J. B. Martin,	1838-1857
Alfred Martien,	1865-1870
William S. Martien,	1840-1861
Joseph B. Mitchell,	1838-1864
Alexander W. Mitchell, M. D.,	1838-1862

Laymen and Elders.

John Mollyneaux,	1838-1853
George Morris,	1838-1847
Joseph Moorhead,	1859-1863
Mahlon Mulford,	1867-1870
George C. Naphys,	1861-1869
Matthew Newkirk,	1838-1868
David Olyphant,	1866-1870
James Otterson, Jr.,	1862-1866
J. W. Pain,	1838-1839
Robert M. Patton,	1858-1862
Morris Patterson,	1857-1870
Ananias Platt,	1838-1842
Ebenezer Platt,	1846-1865
J. W. Platt,	1838-1845
Hon. William A. Porter,	1858-1866
W. A. G. Posey,	1838-1845
Stacy G. Potts,	1850-1861
Henry Rankin,	1838-1841
James M. Ray,	{ 1840-1858
	{ 1866-1870
William S. Reed,	1869-1870
Archibald Robinson,	1840-1859
James B. Ross,	1846-1867
James Russell,	1838-1870
Martin Ryerson,	1864-1870
George G. Sampson,	1857-1867
Winthrop Sargent,	{ 1842-1844
	{ 1853-1870
David A. Sayer,	1850-1870
James Schoonmaker,	1852-1859
Hon. George Sharswood, LL.D.,	1852-1870
G. G. Sherrard,	1859-1860
J. M. Sherwood,	1860-1870
John Sibley,	1856-1870

Laymen and Elders.

Robert Soutter,	1844-1866
James Ross Snowden,	1857-1870
W. B. Spence,	1853-1857
Samuel S. Spencer,	1858-1870
John Stillé,	1838-1842
John C. Stockton,	1838-1858
Robert L. Stuart,	1850-1870
Alexander Symington,	1838-1852
Enoch Taylor,	1861-1867
Alfred Thomas,	1862-1866
Henry E. Thomas,	1863-1870
William R. Thompson,	1860-1861
Charles N. Todd,	1864-1870
E. Vail,	1842-1863
Adrian Van Sinderen,	1840-1844
P. C. Venable, M. D.,	1838-1858
P. A. Walker,	1838-1858
William Walker,	1847-1868
Henry Webb,	1852-1859
James Weir,	1838-1850
Silas E. Weir,	1857-1869
Jesse L. Williams,	1866-1870
William Wilson,	1838-1850
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John F. Woodhall,	1838-1842
James T. Young,	1860-1870

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1852-1870.

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Rev. Wm. H. Spencer,	1855-1857

Secretary and Editor.

Rev. John W. Dulles,	1857-1870
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Rev. Samuel W. Crittenden,	1865-1870
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William Purves,	1854-1860
William L. Hildeburn,	1860-1870

MEMBERS.

Ministers.

E. E. Adams, D. D.,	1862-1868
Albert Barnes,	1852-1870
N. S. S. Beman, D. D.,	1854-1870
A. H. H. Boyd, D. D.,	1854-1857
Thomas Brainerd, D. D.,	1852-1861
J. Glentworth Butler, D. D.,	1857-1870
George Chandler,	1853-1854
Henry Darling, D. D.,	1854-1868

Ministers.

George Duffield, Jr.,	1852-1862
William Eagleton, D. D.,	1854-1857
E. W. Gilbert, D. D.,	1852-1853
Samuel H. Gridley, D. D.,	1854-1862
Z. M. Humphrey, D. D.,	1868-1870
John Jenkins, D. D.,	1854-1863
Herrick Johnson, D. D.,	1868-1870
Daniel March, D. D.,	1863-1870
William E. Moore, D. D.,	1857-1870
Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D.,	1862-1870
Thomas H. Skinner, D. D.,	1852-1853
Asa Smith, D. D.,	1852-1864
Samuel T. Spear, D. D.,	1854-1862
Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D.,	1852-1854
Benjamin J. Wallace,	1854-1857
George F. Wiswell, D. D.,	1857-1870

Laymen.

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T. S. Bodine,	1852-1857
Hon. Wm. Darling,	1852-1854
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William F. Judson,	1865-1868
Samuel H. Perkins,	1853-1857
Samuel C. Perkins,	1858-1870
Hon. William Strong,	1858-1868
William E. Tenbrook,	1863-1870
Benjamin T. Tredick,	1857-1858
Alexander Whildin,	1864-1870
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Charles S. Wurts, M. D.,	1859-1865

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1870—1887.

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Rev. Wm. P. Breed, D. D.,	1875-1887

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Rev. Matthew B. Grier, D. D.,	1870-1871
Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D.,	1871-1873
Rev. Z. M. Humphrey, D. D.,	1873-1874
Rev. Wm. P. Breed, D. D.,	1874-1875
Rev. Joseph M. Crowell, D. D.,	1875-1883
Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D.,	1875-1887
Rev. J. A. Henry, D. D.,	1883-1886
Hon. Robert N. Willson,	1885-1887
Rev. William T. Eva, D. D.,	1886-1887

Corresponding Secretary.

Rev. William E. Schenck, D. D.,	1870-1886
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Editorial Secretary.

Rev. John W. Dulles, D. D.,	1870-1887
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Secretary of Sabbath-School Work.

Rev. James A. Worden, D. D.,*	1880-1887
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* Appointed by the General Assembly.

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Rev. John W. Dulles, D. D.,*	1887
Rev. E. R. Craven, D. D.,†	1887

Superintendents of Colportage.

Winthrop Sargent,	1870-1873
Samuel D. Powel,	1873-1887

Superintendent of Sabbath-School Work.

J. Bennet Tyler,	1872-1876
Rev. James A. Worden,	1878-1880

Business Superintendent.

John A. Black,	1870-1887
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Treasurers.

Winthrop Sargent,	1870-1873
Samuel D. Powel,	1873-1887

Recording Clerk.

Rev. Willard M. Rice, D. D.,	1870-1887
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Editor.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.,‡	1887
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George Alexander, D. D.,	1886-1887
Richard H. Allen, D. D.,	1870-1880
R. R. Booth, D. D.,	1874-1875
William P. Breed, D. D.,	1870-1887
James M. Crowell, D. D.,	1871-1883

* Elected January 18, 1887; died April 13, 1887.

† Elected May 10, 1887.

‡ Elected January 18, 1887.

Ministers.

David A. Cunningham, D. D.,	1870-1877
Stephen W. Dana, D. D.,	1870-1883
Charles A. Dickey, D. D.,	1875-1887
John W. Dulles, D. D.,	1870-1887
William T. Eva, D. D.,	1870-1887
Loyal Young Graham, D. D.,	1877-1887
William Greenough,	1877-1886
Rufus S. Green,	1881-1882
William Brenton Greene, Jr.,	1886-1887
Matthew B. Grier, D. D.,	1870-1872
F. R. Harbaugh,	1870-1872
J. Addison Henry, D. D.,	1872-1886
Z. M. Humphrey, D. D.,	1870-1875
Herrick Johnson, D. D.,	{ 1870-1874 1882-1887
William E. Jones, D. D.,	1878-1886
John S. MacIntosh, D. D.,	1883-1887
Daniel March, D. D.,	1870-1878
William E. Moore, D. D.,	1870-1873
Thomas Murphy, D. D.,	1870-1887
George W. Musgrave, D. D.,	1872-1883
Samuel A. Mutchmore, D. D.,	1874-1887
Matthew Newkirk, D. D.,	1870-1887
Samuel J. Niccolls, D. D.,	1884-1887
Roger Owen, D. D.,	1875-1887
Robert M. Patterson, D. D.,	1870-1887
J. Grier Ralston, D. D.,	1870-1881
Alexander Reed, D. D.,	1870-1887
Willard M. Rice, D. D.,	1870-1887
William Dayton Roberts, D. D.,	1883-1887
William H. Roberts, D. D.,	1886-1887
John S. Sands, D. D.,	1883-1887
William E. Schenck, D. D.,	1870-1887
J. Henry Sharpe, D. D.,	1873-1887

Ministers.

Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D.,	1870-1887
H. Augustus Smith, D. D.,	1870-1883
Peter Stryker, D. D.,	1870-1871
Marvin R. Vincent, D. D.,	1875-1876
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Gustavus S. Benson,	1870-1883
Charles S. Biles,	1875-1887
Henry C. Blair,	1882-1887
Edward P. Borden,	1883-1887
William Brockie,	1876-1887
Stanton Cady,	1877-1880
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James Hogg,	1875-1876
Edward R. Hutchins, M. D.,	1870-1872
George Junkin,	1870-1876

Laymen and Elders.

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Horatio B. Lincoln,	1870-1877
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William G. Moorhead,	1872-1876
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